

SPORTS REVIEW

Apartment Wrestling Shocker:

July 1977

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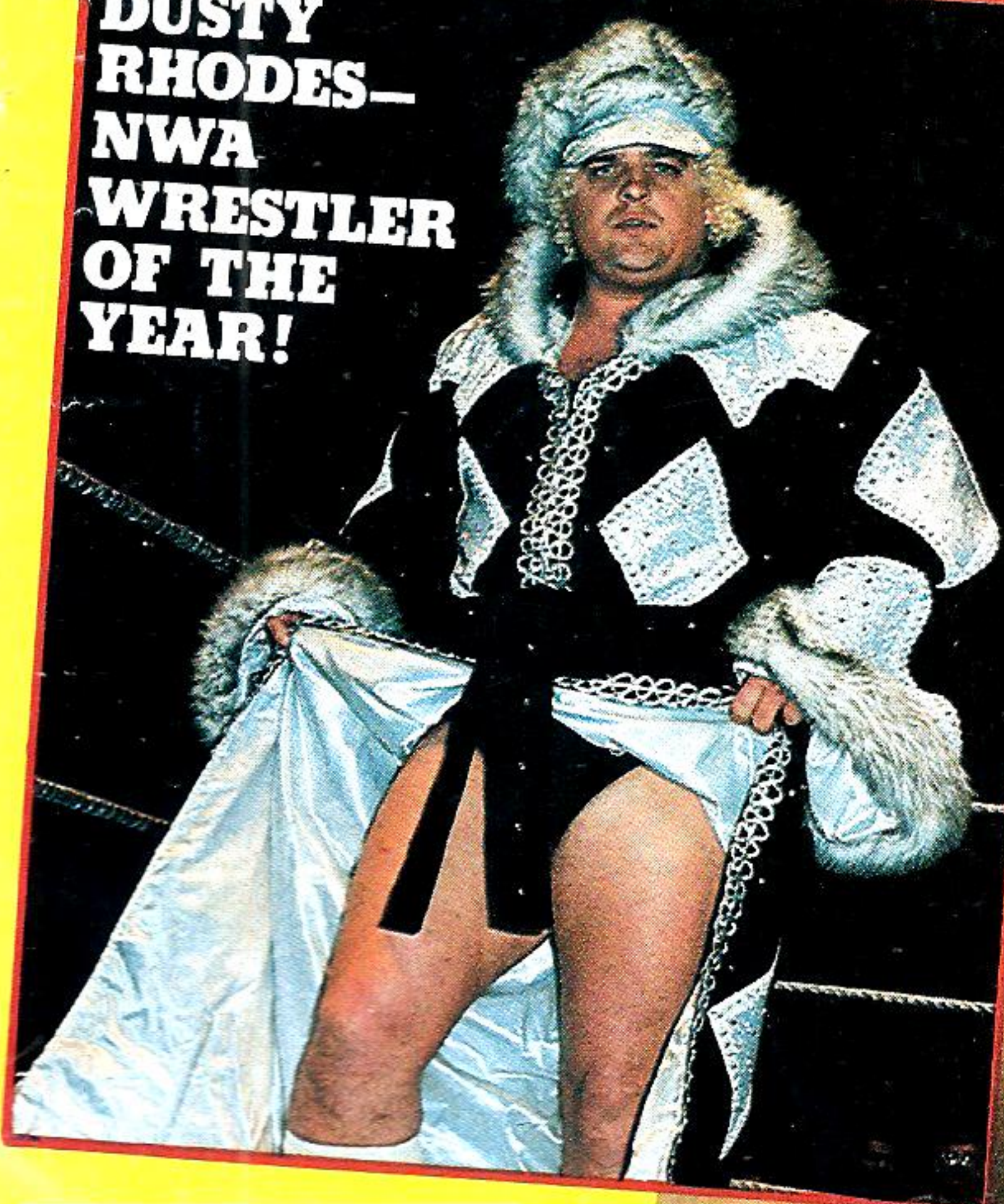
**HOW A FIEND
TURNED A SAVAGE
BEAUTY INTO A
HELPLESS VICTIM**

Wrestling

**A TREASURY
OF MIL
MASCARAS'
GREATEST
MATCHES**



**DUSTY
RHODES—
NWA
WRESTLER
OF THE
YEAR!**



OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

CHAMPION: BRUNO SAMMARTINO

- 1—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
- 2—IVAN PUTSKI
- 3—BARON VON RASCHKE
- 4—BOB BACKLUND
- 5—KEN PATERA
- 6—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
- 7—GEORGE STEELE
- 8—LARRY ZBYSZKO
- 9—TONY GAREA
- 10—CARLOS ROCHA

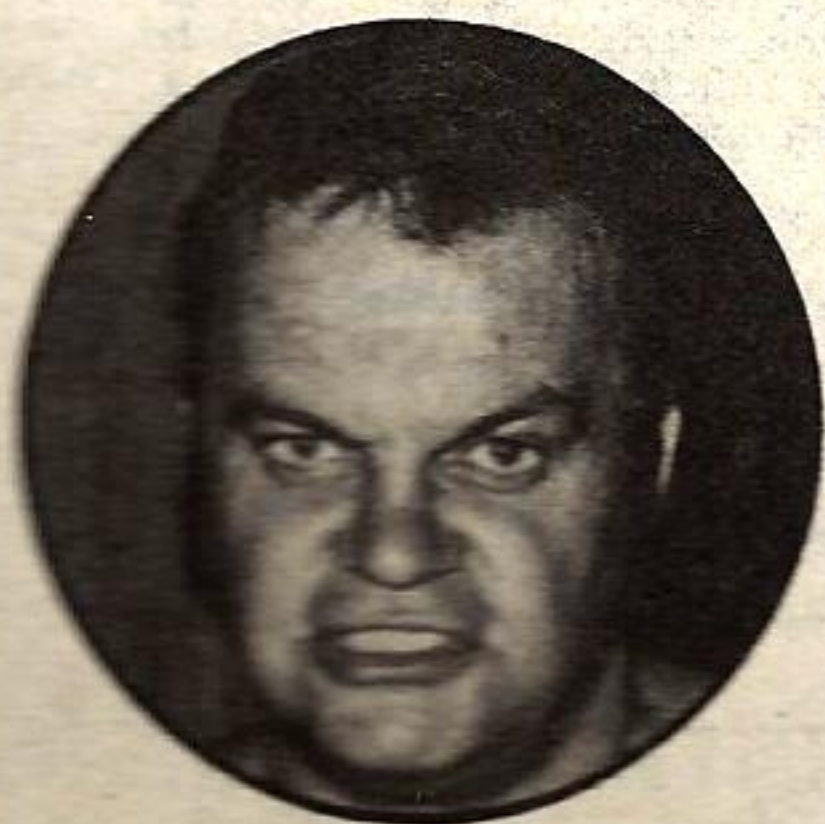
AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPION: NICK BOCKWINKLE

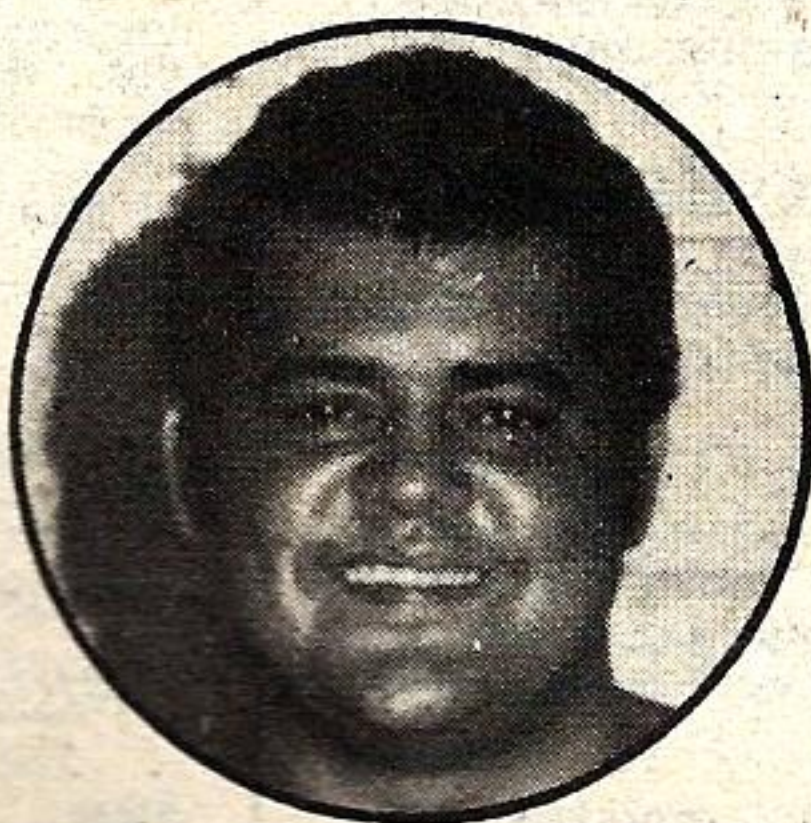
- 1—RAY STEVENS
- 2—VERNE GAGNE
- 3—JIM BRUNZELL
- 4—GREG GAGNE
- 5—CRUSHER
- 6—PEDRO MORALES
- 7—ANGELO MOSCA
- 8—SUPER DESTROYER
- 9—PETER MAIVIA
- 10—MAD DOG VACHON

MOST POPULAR

- 1—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 2—MIL MASCARAS
- 3—IVAN PUTSKI
- 4—ANDRE THE GIANT
- 5—DUSTY RHODES
- 6—BOB BACKLUND
- 7—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
- 8—JACK BRISCO
- 9—LARRY ZBYSZKO
- 10—BRUISER



STAN STASIAK



PEDRO MORALES

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

CHAMPION: HARLEY RACE

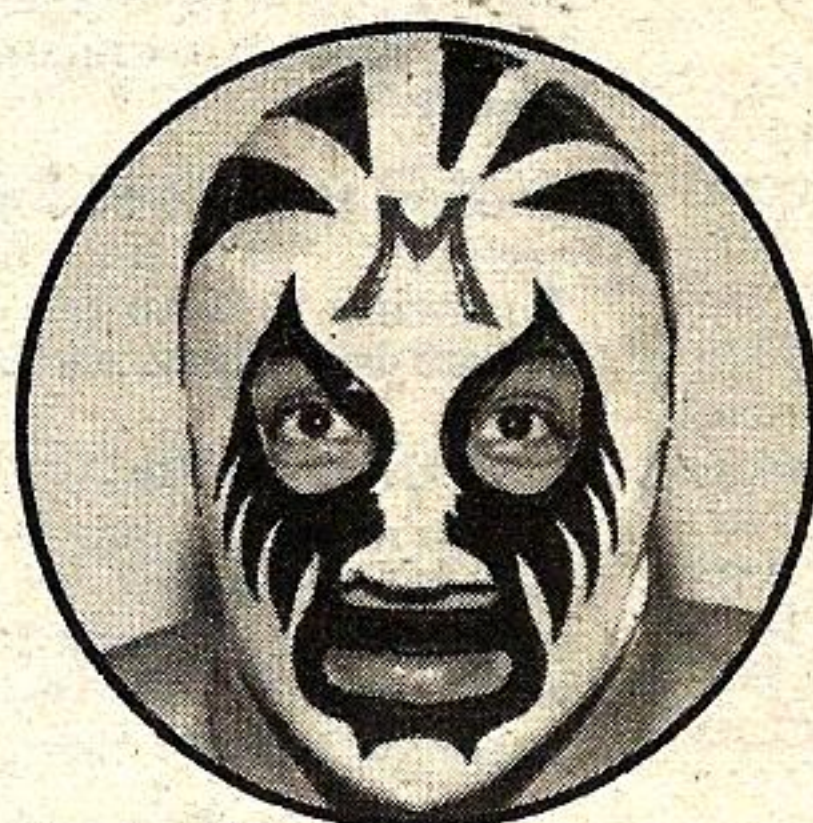
- 1—DUSTY RHODES
- 2—JACK BRISCO
- 3—DORY FUNK JR.
- 4—TERRY FUNK
- 5—BLACKJACK MULLIGAN
- 6—THE SHEIK
- 7—WAHOO McDANIEL
- 8—DICK SLATER
- 9—MR. WRESTLING II
- 10—PAUL JONES

TAG TEAMS

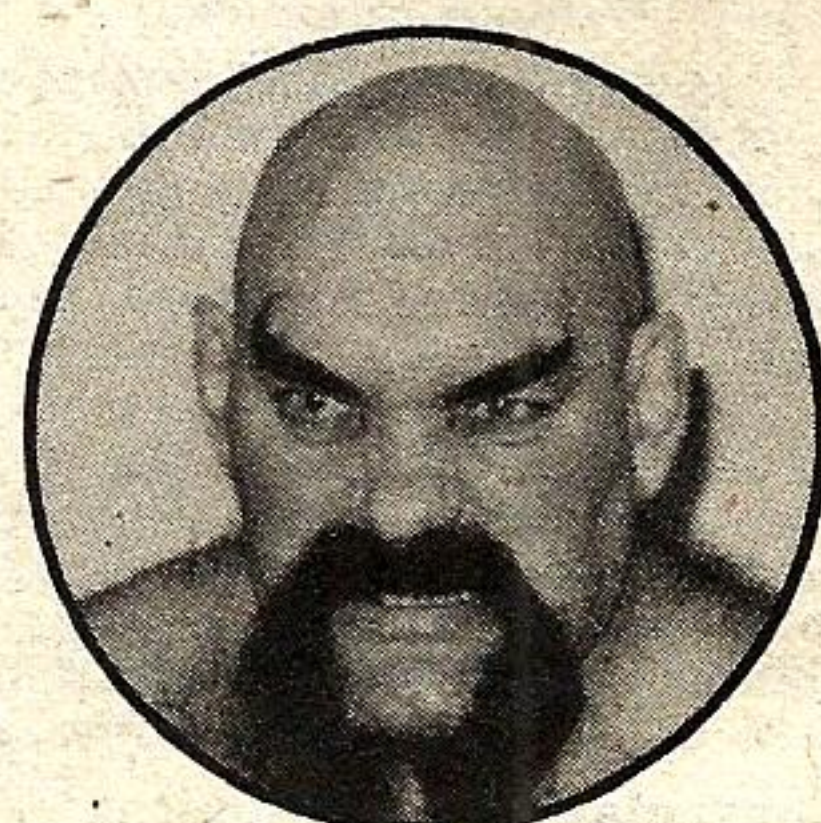
- 1—GREG VALENTINE & RIC FLAIR
- 2—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW & BILLY WHITE WOLF
- 3—BOBBY DUNCUM & BLACKJACK LANZA
- 4—THE ANDERSON BROTHERS
- 5—JACK & JERRY BRISCO
- 6—THE HOLLYWOOD BLONDS
- 7—BLACK GORDMAN & GOLIATH
- 8—THE VALIANT BROTHERS
- 9—THE EXECUTIONERS
- 10—PAT PATTERSON & PEPPER GOMEZ

MOST HATED

- 1—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
- 2—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
- 3—OX BAKER
- 4—THE SHEIK
- 5—KEN PATERA
- 6—DICK SLATER
- 7—BARON VON RASCHKE
- 8—BRUISER BRODIE
- 9—BLACKJACK LANZA
- 10—STAN STASIAK



MIL MASCARAS



OX BAKER

It came as no surprise when Dusty Rhodes was picked NWA wrestler of the year. No man deserves the honor more or has worked as hard to achieve it. Let us all share in the glory of this fantastic athlete and human being

Dusty Rhodes, "The American Dream," is the NWA Wrestler of the Year. He earned this great honor because of his immense popularity and vast talents.

"FOR HIS REMARKABLE accomplishments in wrestling," intoned the master of ceremonies at the banquet, "the NWA names Dusty Rhodes as its 'Wrestler of the Year.'" A thunderous ovation rose for the wrestler as he made his way to the dais.

It took five minutes for the crowd to quiet down. Finally, Dusty was given the chance to speak: "Ladies and gentlemen, I don't know how I can begin to thank you for the honor you have bestowed upon me this evening. I will be eternally grateful for it.

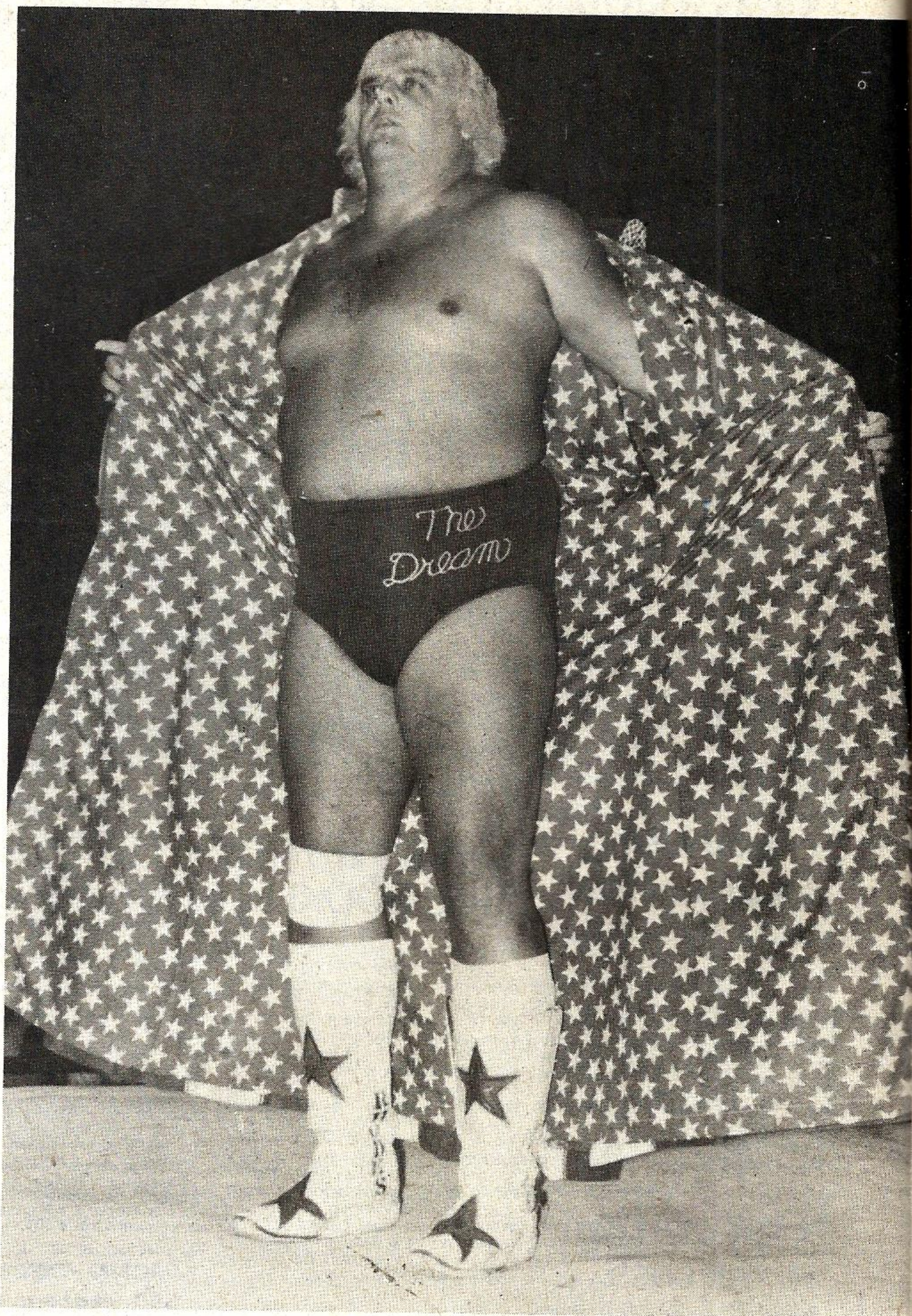
"Of course, I would like to be addressing you tonight as champion of this great association, but that is impossible, at least for the moment. In any case, this award means more to me than I can express in words. I hope I will always be worthy of your respect and admiration."

Again the audience burst into thunderous applause, cheering for the man they had selected as the one wrestler in the NWA who best exemplified wrestling and what it stands for. Without a doubt, Dusty Rhodes was the best choice.

Like he said, he has not yet won the
(Continued on page 12)

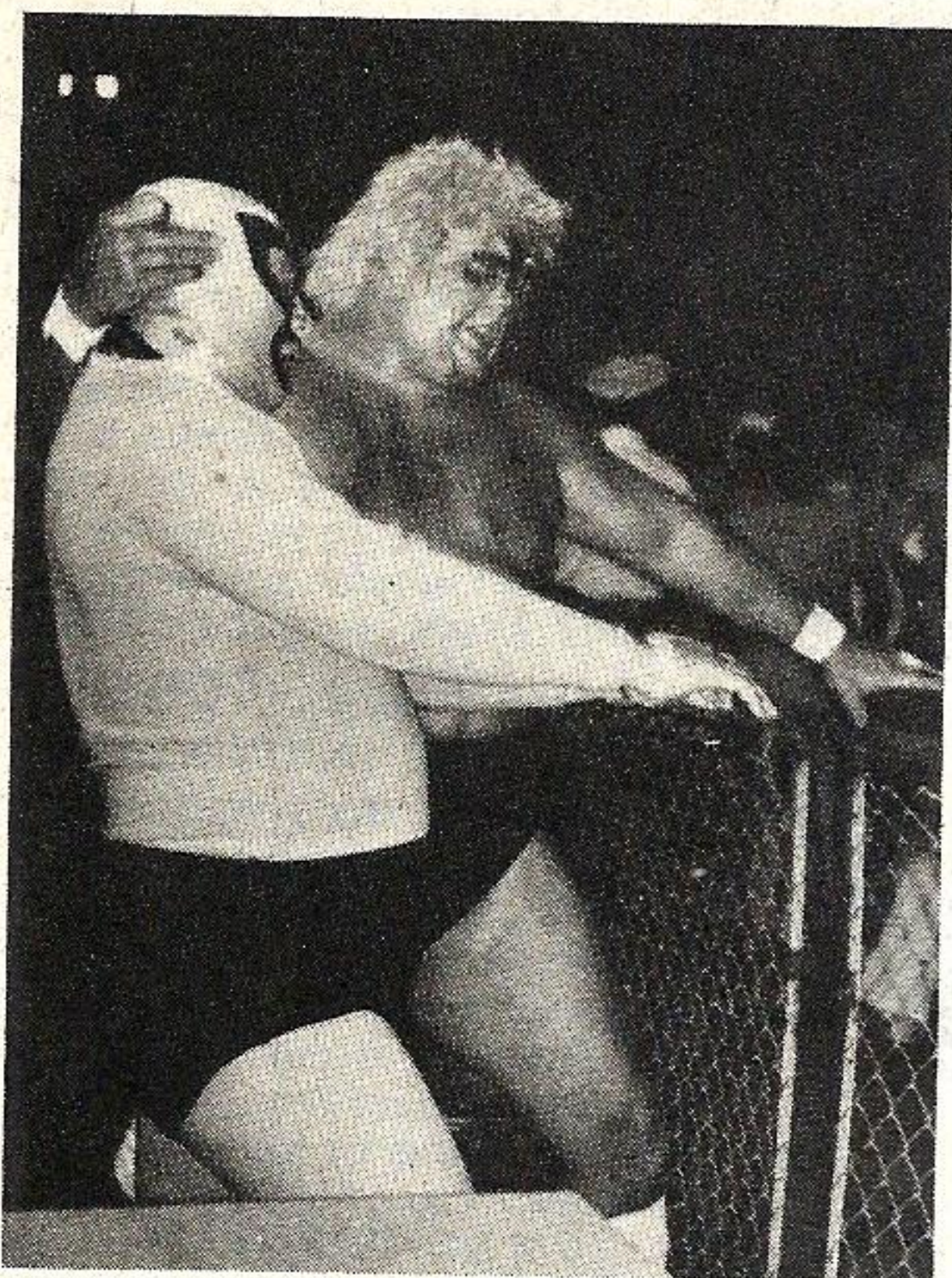
**DUSTY
RHODES—**

**NWA WRESTLER
OF THE YEAR!**



DUSTY RHODES

(Continued from Page 10)

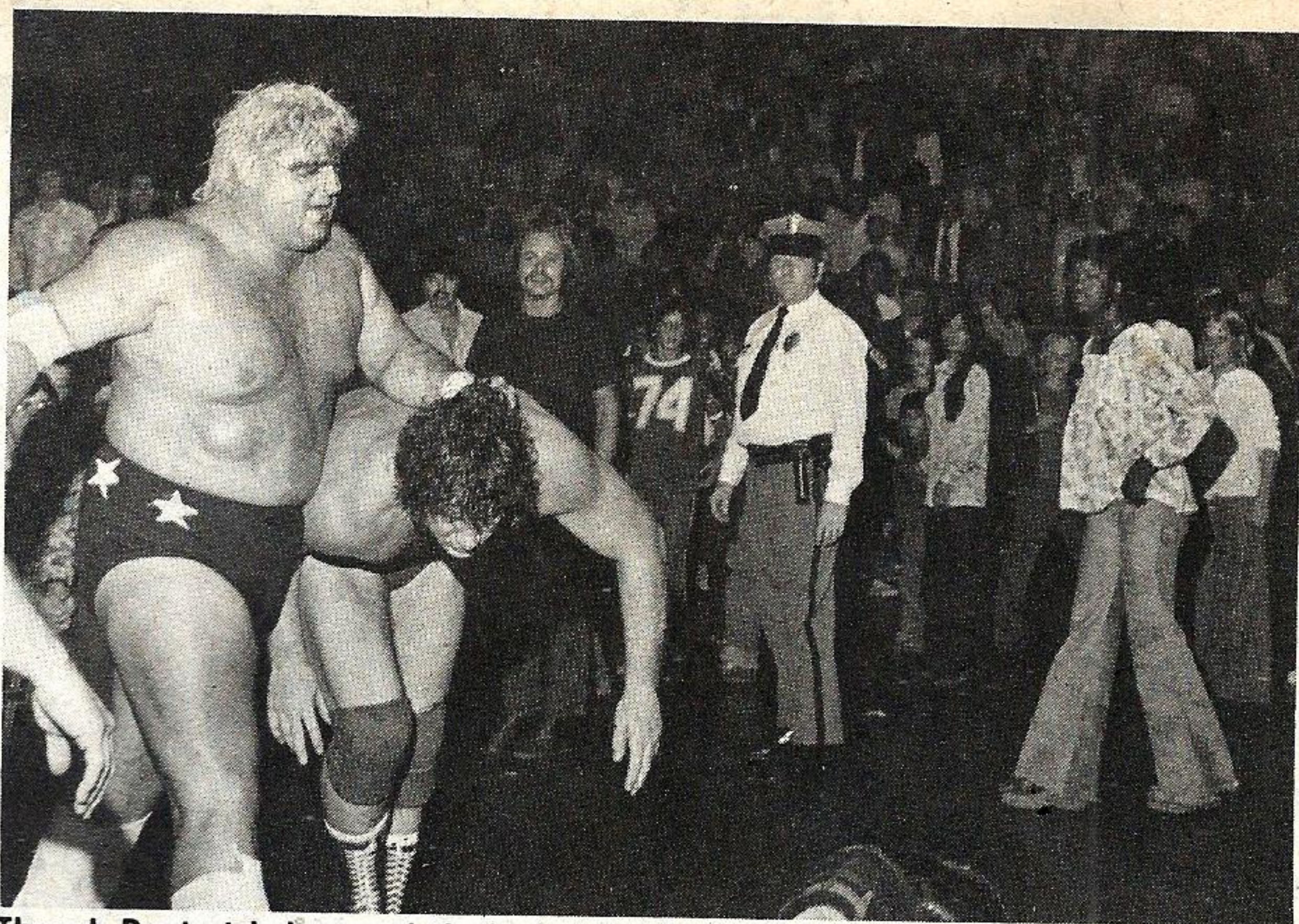


Dusty has taken on vicious opponents like The Assassin, simply because the fans wanted him to do so. Rhodes will do anything the fans want.

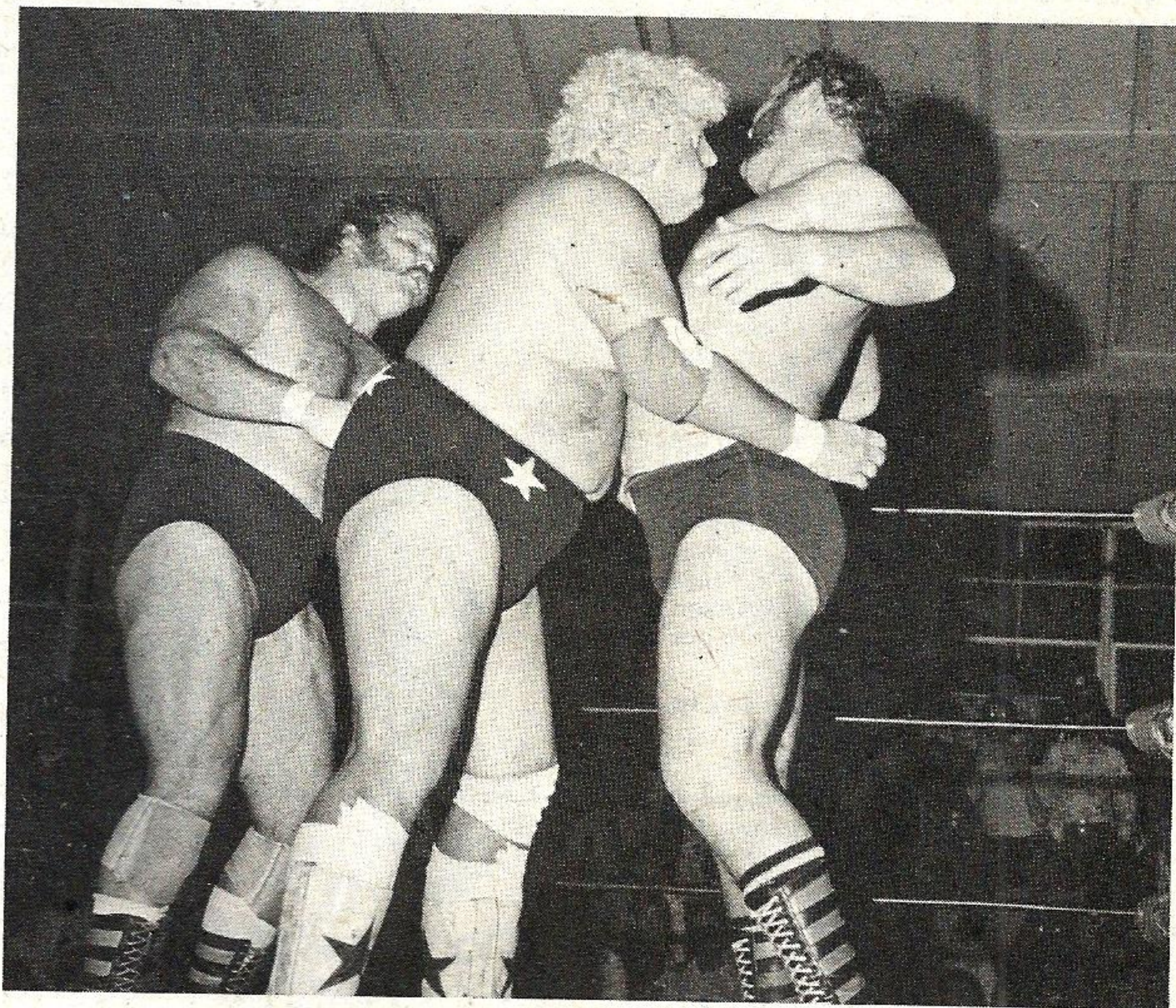
NWA championship like he had hoped, but he has done more than enough to win this award. In the past year, Dusty has become one of the most popular wrestlers in the world. His millions of fans adore him, and they believe in him. He has been one of the most honorable men in the sport, thus completing an about-face from the time he was one of the most notorious men in wrestling. For this alone, Rhodes deserved to win the award.

But there is more, much more. Dusty has never backed down from a challenge, and there have been many brutal challenges. Dusty has taken on men like Abdullah the Butcher, Superstar Billy Graham, and Terry Funk. Though he may have not won all the matches he had with these men, he wrestled each one honorably. He has nothing to be ashamed of.

Dusty's success has not been limited to the NWA. He is loved in every city to which he travels. And though he wrestles most for the NWA, he still makes periodic appearances in the AWA. Of course, his recent visits to New York's Madison Square Garden broke all attendance records for that famed hall of wrestling. Fans poured out by the tens of thousands to see



Though Dusty tried several times to take the NWA title from Terry Funk (above), he never succeeded in his efforts. Nonetheless, the NWA still gave him the award. Among the people Rhodes has faced are Gene and Ole Anderson, who tried to doubleteam the popular grappler.



Dusty Rhodes in New York. He didn't disappoint them.

Indeed, Dusty tries not to disappoint his fans anywhere. On any given night, he can be found in either Texas, Florida, Georgia, or anywhere else in the NWA. He refuses to stay in only one city and wrestle there exclusively. That is why he is one of the most popular grapplers in history.

For all this, and more, Dusty Rhodes was named NWA "Wrestler of the Year." There simply was no one

more qualified to win the award.

"This is the most treasured honor I have ever received," said Dusty after the ceremonies. "To be recognized for my talents by the NWA—despite the fact that I am not champion—is more than I ever imagined could happen to me.

"But I have to thank one very special group of people, without whom I would never have won this award—the fans. They made this all possible. I love each and every one of them." □

[illegible]

Just as I had him down on the canvas, his body heaving with exhaustion, Funk summed up a small reserve of energy. He reached out and punched the referee, who happened to be

I remember all too well that one particular match to which Rhodes refers. The only problem is he has his facts slightly twisted. He wasn't beating me; I was whipping the tar out of

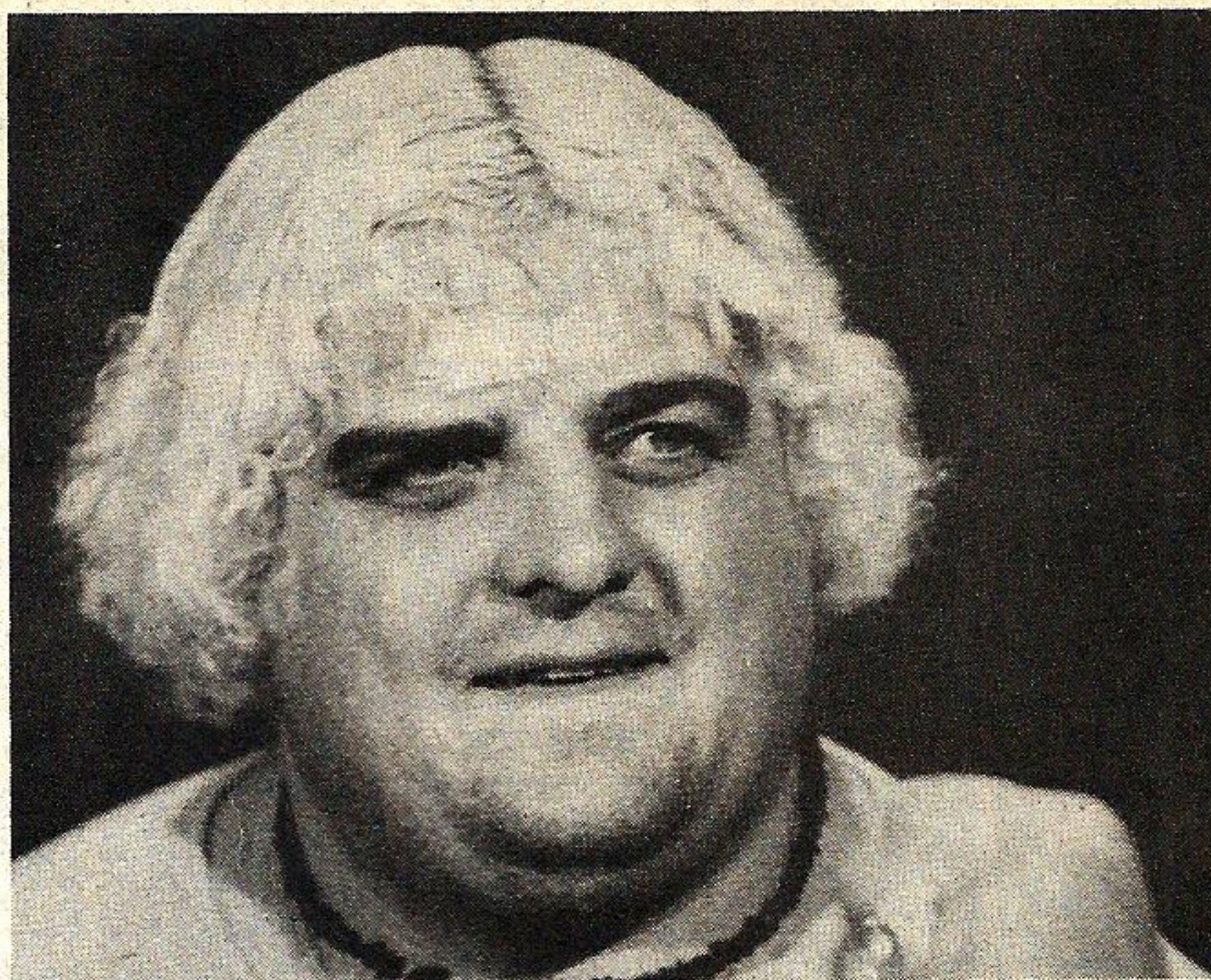
kneeling down near us to count out those three final seconds. However, after Funk punched him, the referee disqualified the champion. I had won the match, but I had lost the belt at the last possible second. Is that fair? I don't think so.

Plainly, it is clear that it is too damn simple for a champion to keep the title, just because of this disqualification clause. I think that any man who is champion should give up his belt if he loses. This nonsense about disqualifications is silly, and it looks bad for the sport of wrestling.

The time has come for a change. With Harley Race as NWA champion, we can only expect more of the same misuse of the champion's rights. Race, in his previous short-lived reign as champion, was not above using disqualification to save his title. In fact, he just missed the chance to do that when Jack Brisco came along and took the belt.

This deplorable situation exists not only in the NWA, but in all of wrestling. It must be stopped. Otherwise, men like myself will continue to be denied the titles we deserve.

In conclusion, all I can say is that this



problem has gotten so bad it has made me consider leaving wrestling altogether and find some place in life where the rules are a little fairer. It isn't just me who has considered this drastic action. Other scientific wrestlers who have been thwarted in their efforts to gain a championship for the same reason feel as I do. This must stop. The disqualification clause must be eliminated once and for all! □

COUNTERPOINT•POINT•COUNTERP

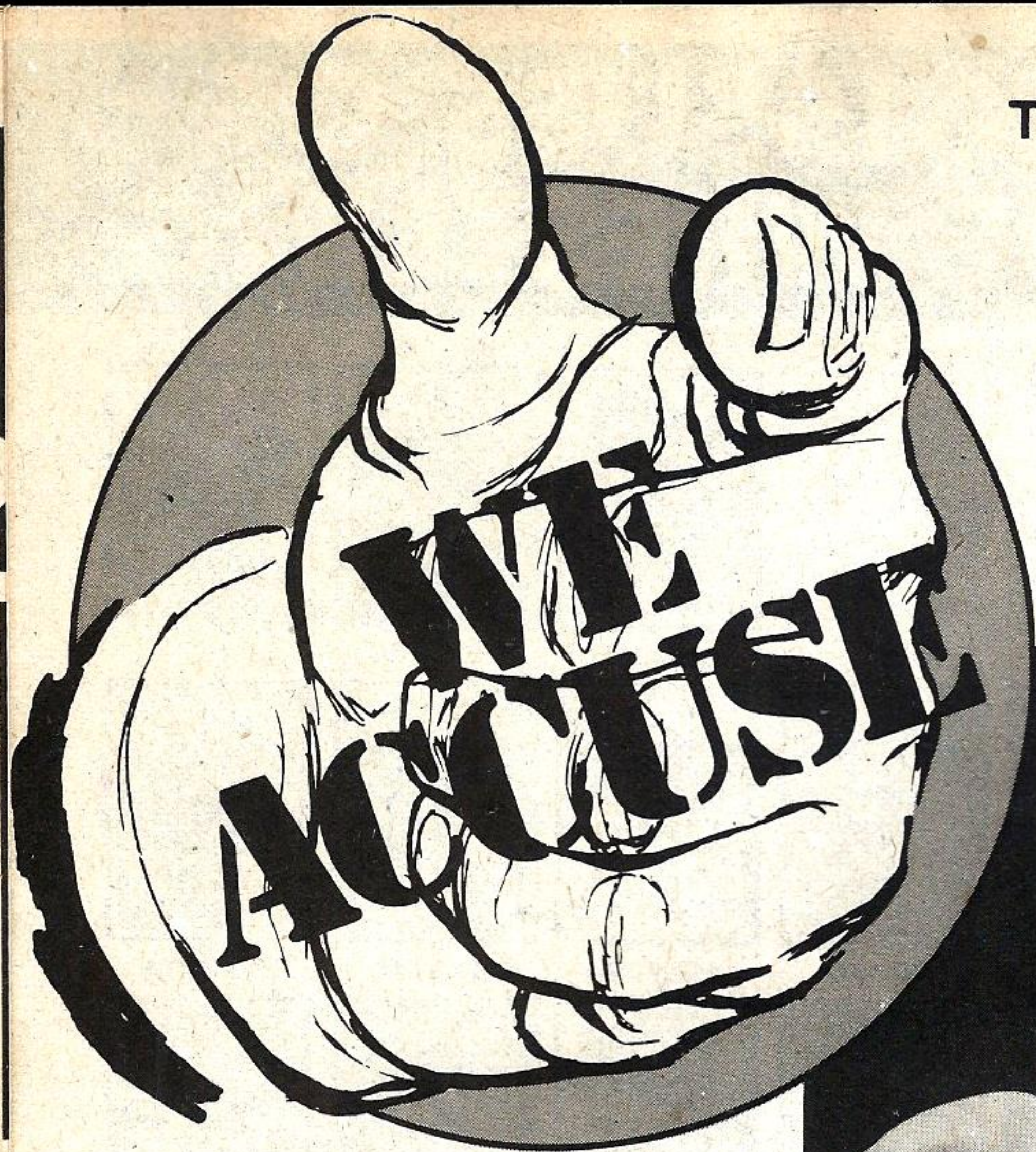
him. I had let him get me down on the canvas to fool him into thinking he was winning. That was part of my clever strategy. Unfortunately, something went wrong. I had meant to use my hand as leverage to reverse the hold Rhodes had on me. Instead, I accidentally hit the referee. I never meant to hit him. And I would never purposely get myself disqualified. That would be dishonest.

Now if Rhodes had his way, I would have lost the belt that night. But I would have lost it because of an accident. Is that fair? I don't think so.

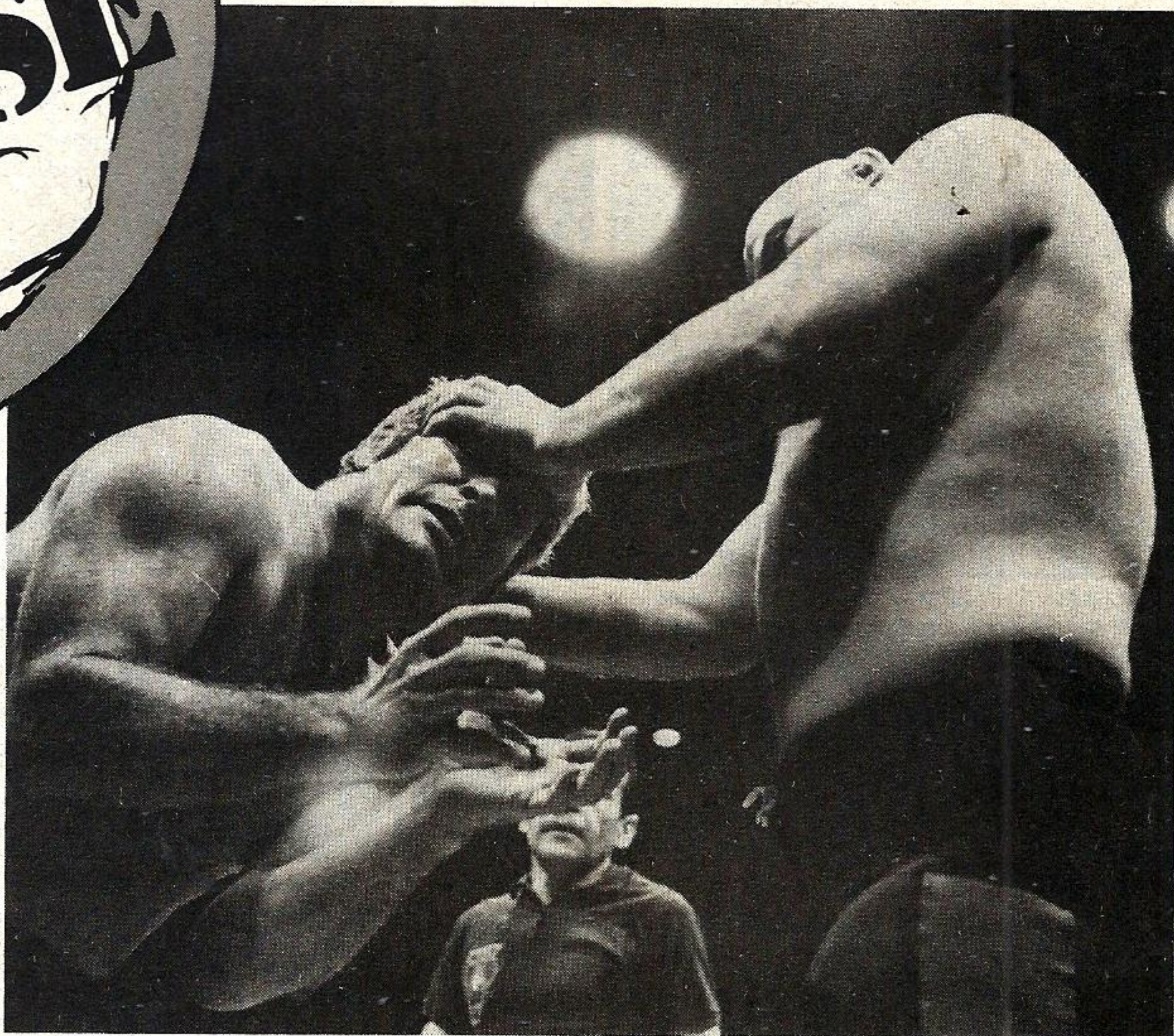
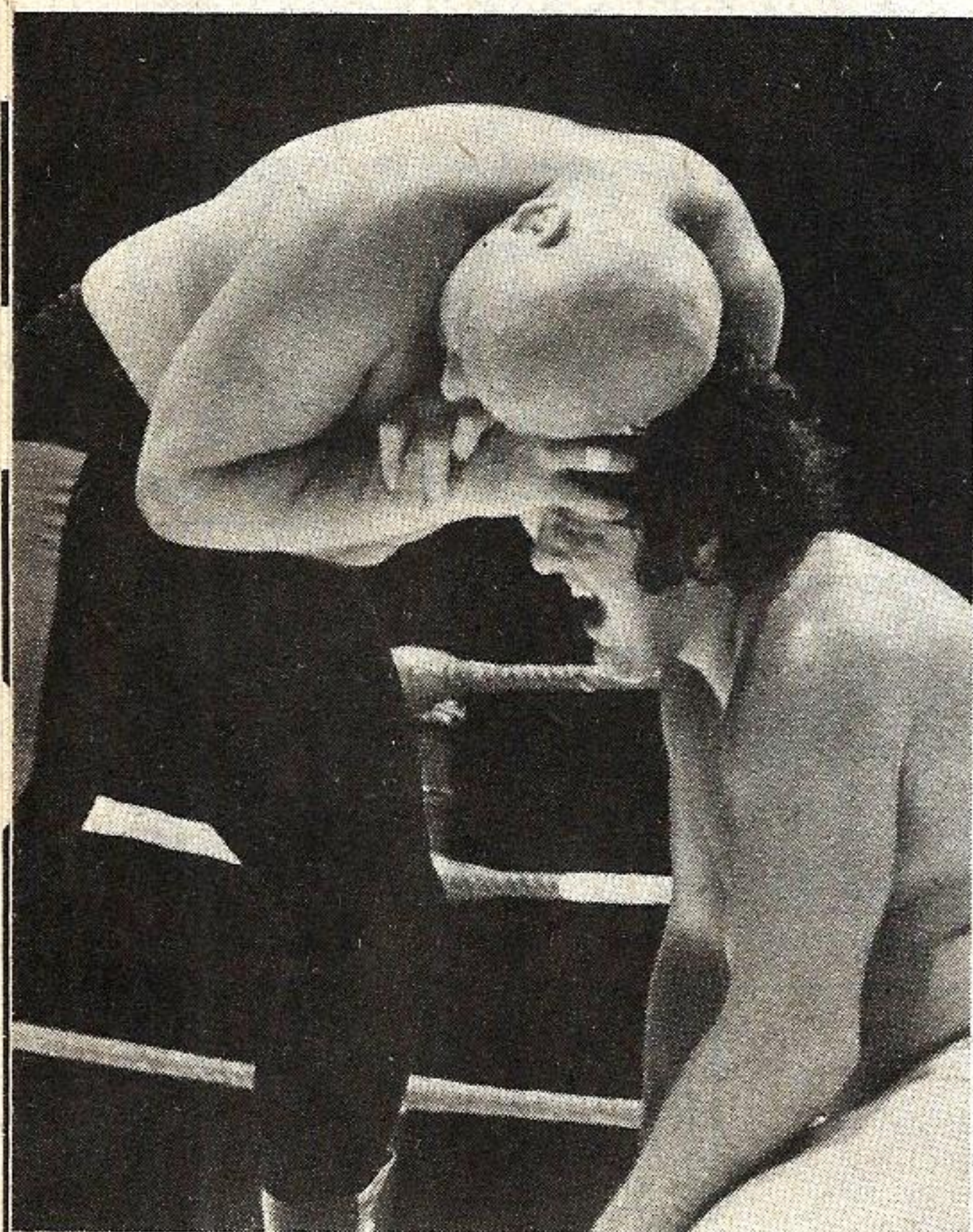
As far as it being too easy for someone to keep a belt, I know all too well how patently untrue that is. Look at what happened to me in Toronto when I wrestled Harley Race. I never submitted, though the referee thought I did. In fact, I thought I was winning the match when I was suddenly told I had given up. It had been all too easy for me to lose the belt. I didn't deserve to lose it. Yet I did. So much for the argument that it is easy to retain a championship. If Dusty Rhodes knew anything about really being a champion, he would know that it is the most difficult thing in the world to do.



Finally, if Dusty Rhodes wants to quit wrestling because of the disqualification clause, that is all right by me. Who needs him? He hasn't done anything particularly great for the sport. In fact, I think wrestling would be better off without him! □



The sport of wrestling, like any other sport, has its share of problems. Some of these problems are so outrageous they need to be pointed out and corrected as quickly as possible. When "We Accuse" points the finger at a target, fireworks are sure to follow!



Baron Von Raschke must be permanently stopped from using his dangerous Brain Claw, a vicious tactic that has caused more suffering than almost any other maneuver ever devised. Both Billy Robinson (left) and Wilbur Snyder (above) have been victims of Von Raschke's Claw.

BY THE EDITORS

WRESTLING IS A physical contest between two athletes. It should not be a battle for survival. Methods threatening wrestlers' livelihoods cannot be tolerated.

Therefore, it is important that Baron Von Raschke stop using his brain clawhold. It is becoming more and more dangerous. Now, the victim's skin is split open and wide gashes are made. Blood flows freely. Any injury to the skull is dangerous. Pressure intense enough to rupture the

skin could cause irreparable damage to the brain. Holds of this kind have no place in wrestling.

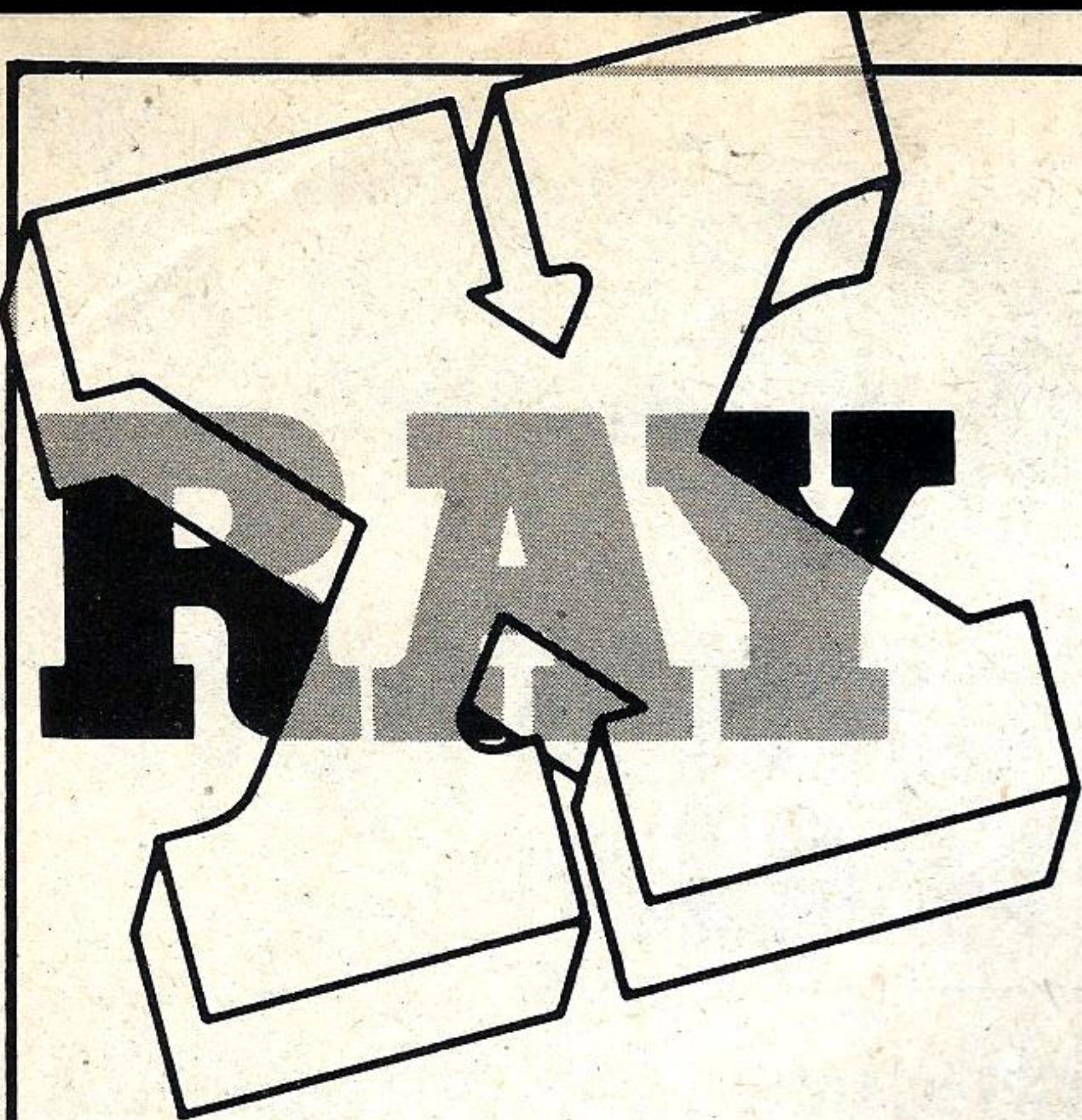
It is no secret many wrestlers have already suffered minor brain damage from Von Raschke's claw. Doctors say they will experience dizzy spells for years to come, perhaps the rest of their lives. Others complain of slurred speech. They suffer periods of mental instability. All of this can be traced directly to Von Raschke's brain claw.

It wouldn't take much to make the brain claw cause for immediate disqualification. The commissions could issue a ban tomorrow. Clearly, there already exists enough evidence to make this necessary. Discussion and

voting would take no more than a few minutes. Everyone already knows the facts.

Although there is no reason for allowing Von Raschke to continue with this hold, the commissions have yet to take any action. They prefer to let wrestlers endure brain injuries than try to confront Von Raschke. This is criminal. For every wrestler who will never be the same after Von Raschke's torture, the commissioners must share the blame.

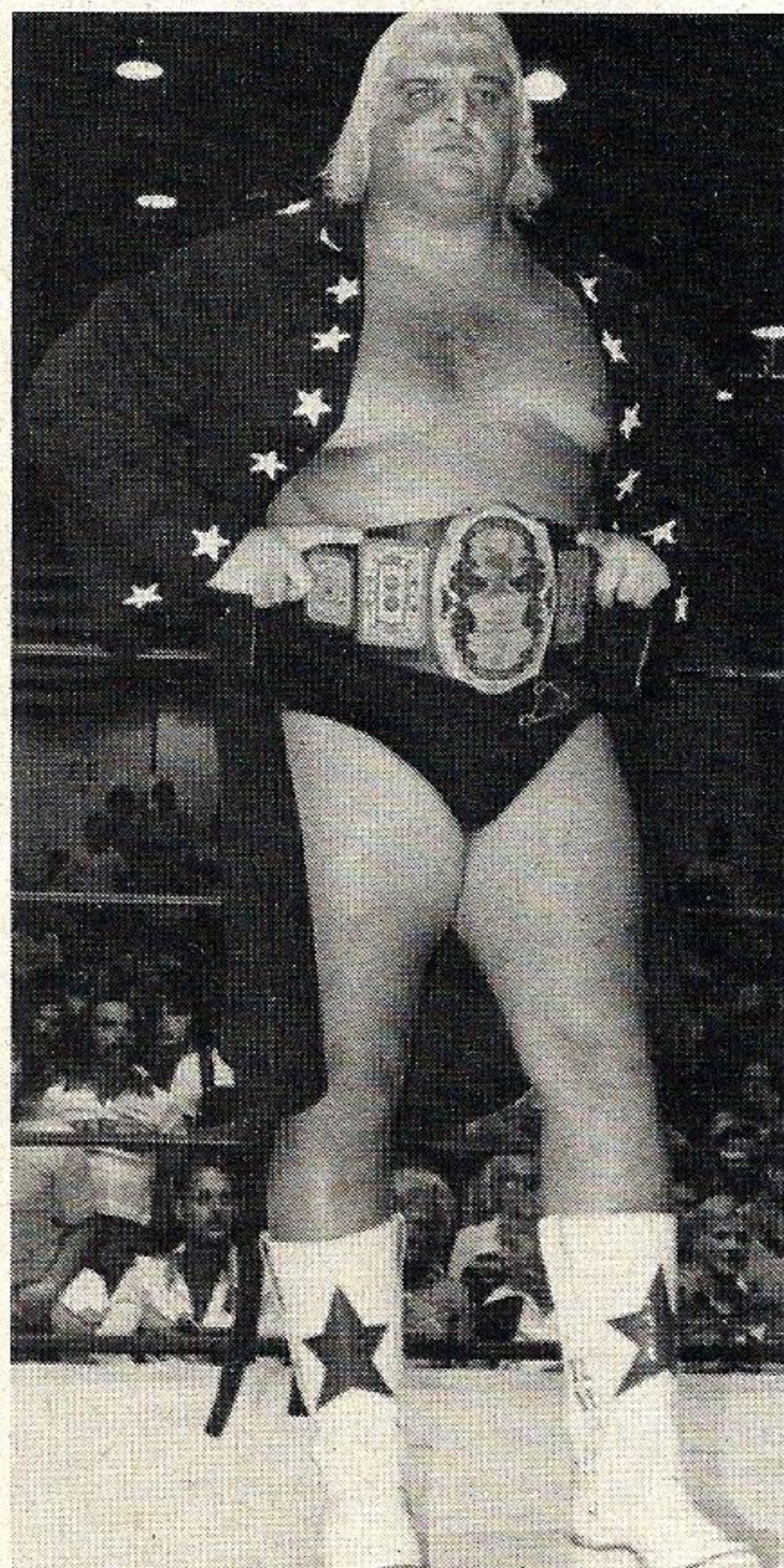
What makes this action even more despicable is Von Raschke's ability to win using standard maneuvers. He doesn't need to do this. He wants to
(Continued on page 50)



DUSTY RHODES

Strength & Power	9.5
Speed	7.5
Repertoire	8.0
Finishing Maneuvers	8.0
Ability to Absorb Punishment	10.0
Stamina	10.0
Courage	10.0
Intelligence	9.5
Poise	8.0
Experience	9.5
RATING	90.0

Our exclusive "Stat-O-Chart" system for rating wrestlers has caused great controversy ever since its introduction. Though many wrestling experts have praised the system for its thoroughness, some wrestlers feel they should be given a chance to criticize their ratings. "X-Ray" is each man's chance to respond to his own "Stat-O-Chart"



Dusty Rhodes, shown above with the Florida belt, is very proud of his 90.0 Stat-O-Chart rating.

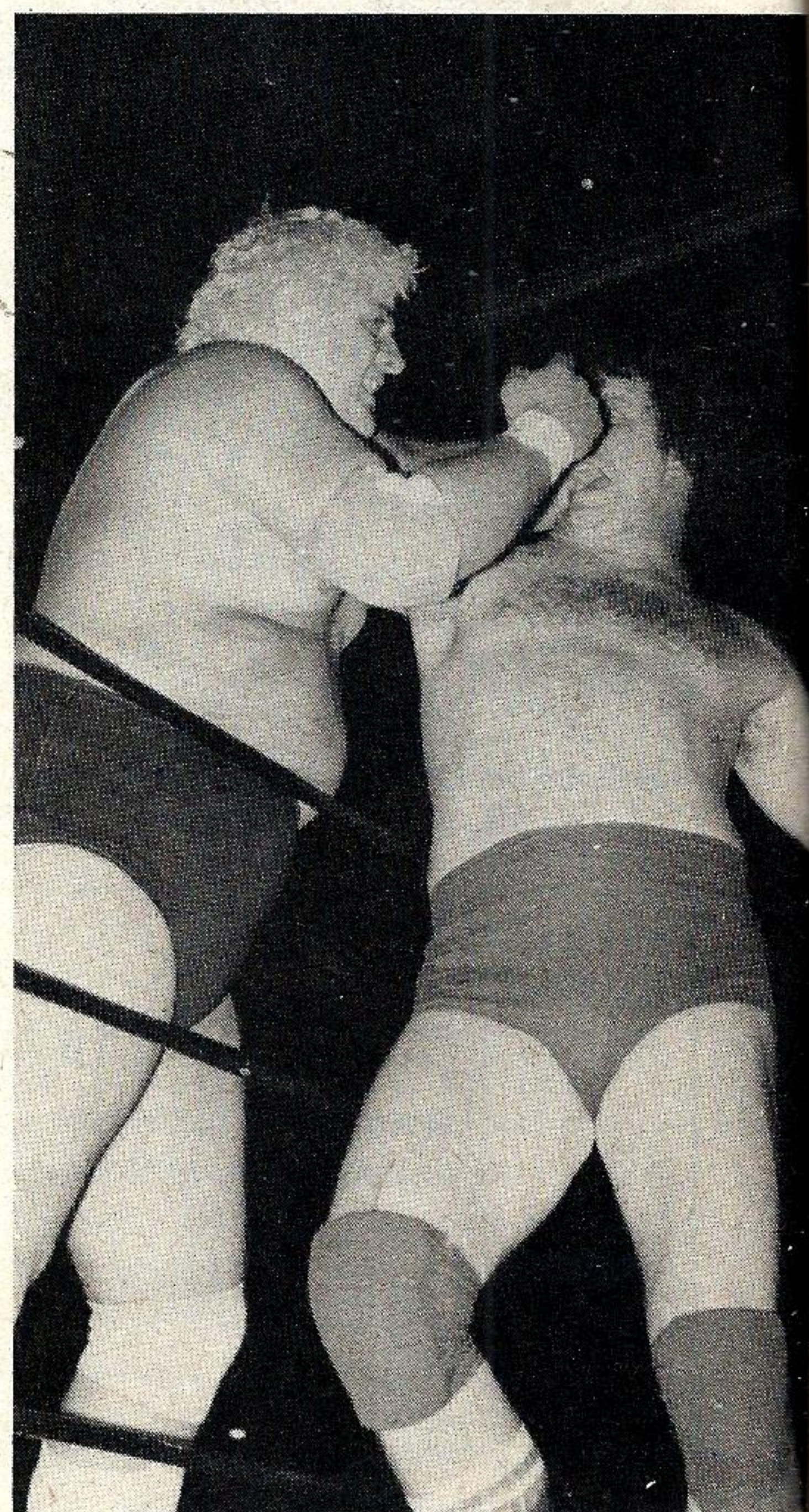
Dusty is one of the few wrestlers who can successfully use a nose crusher. He is shown using it on Terry Funk (right).

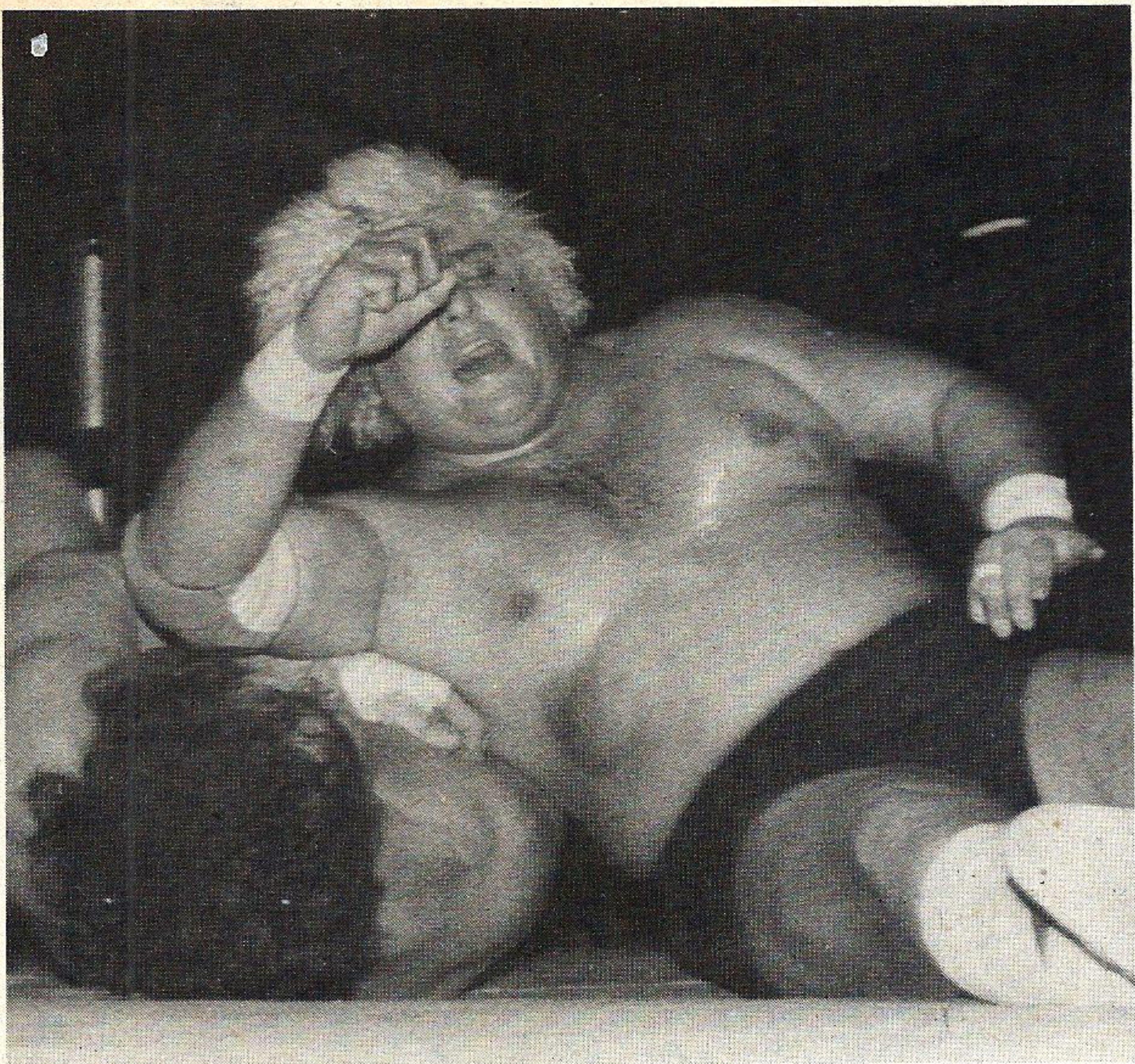
BY DUSTY RHODES

THOSE CATEGORIES AND numbers are supposed to be me. My categories are pretty good. Hell, let's not bother with modesty. My categories are great. All together, Dusty Rhodes equals 90.5. I'm an "A". Pretty impressive.

Got to hand it to these editors. This is the best damn rating system I've ever seen. I couldn't think of any other categories, any other facets of a wrestler's skills, except for maybe one. And that's whether or not he has something special that makes him better than any rating system can determine.

I don't know what to call that category. Maybe "magic." It's as good as explanation as any. There's something magical about athletes, the way we can move bodies better than average people. We have a special relationship with our muscles and nerves. It comes from hard work and that something special we're born with. You can't categorize it because it's always changing. Some nights it's





there and some nights there's nothing. It's the most important facet of any wrestler. You won't find it on any charts. It can't be measured.

I haven't talked about the chart yet, have I? I'm supposed to go down the list and say where I agree and disagree. I'm not supposed to go into the Dusty Rhodes wrestling theory. Okay, here's where I live up to my part of the bargain.

I scored my lowest on speed. A 7.5. That puts me somewhere between a snail and a radish. Just because I don't leap around like a gazelle with fleas doesn't mean I'm not fast. I've spent years making my motions economical. Less waste of energy, baby. Same result with half the strain. And what's my reward for perfect execution? Experts say I move in slow motion. Experts.

I do real well on most other categories, don't I, but I didn't do all that well on poise. I have to agree there. I tried for years to keep my temper in check. Don't bother trying anymore. I just do the best I can when hot blood floods my brain. I've tried every trick in the book to control my temper. None work. If anyone else has some ideas, I'd be glad to listen.

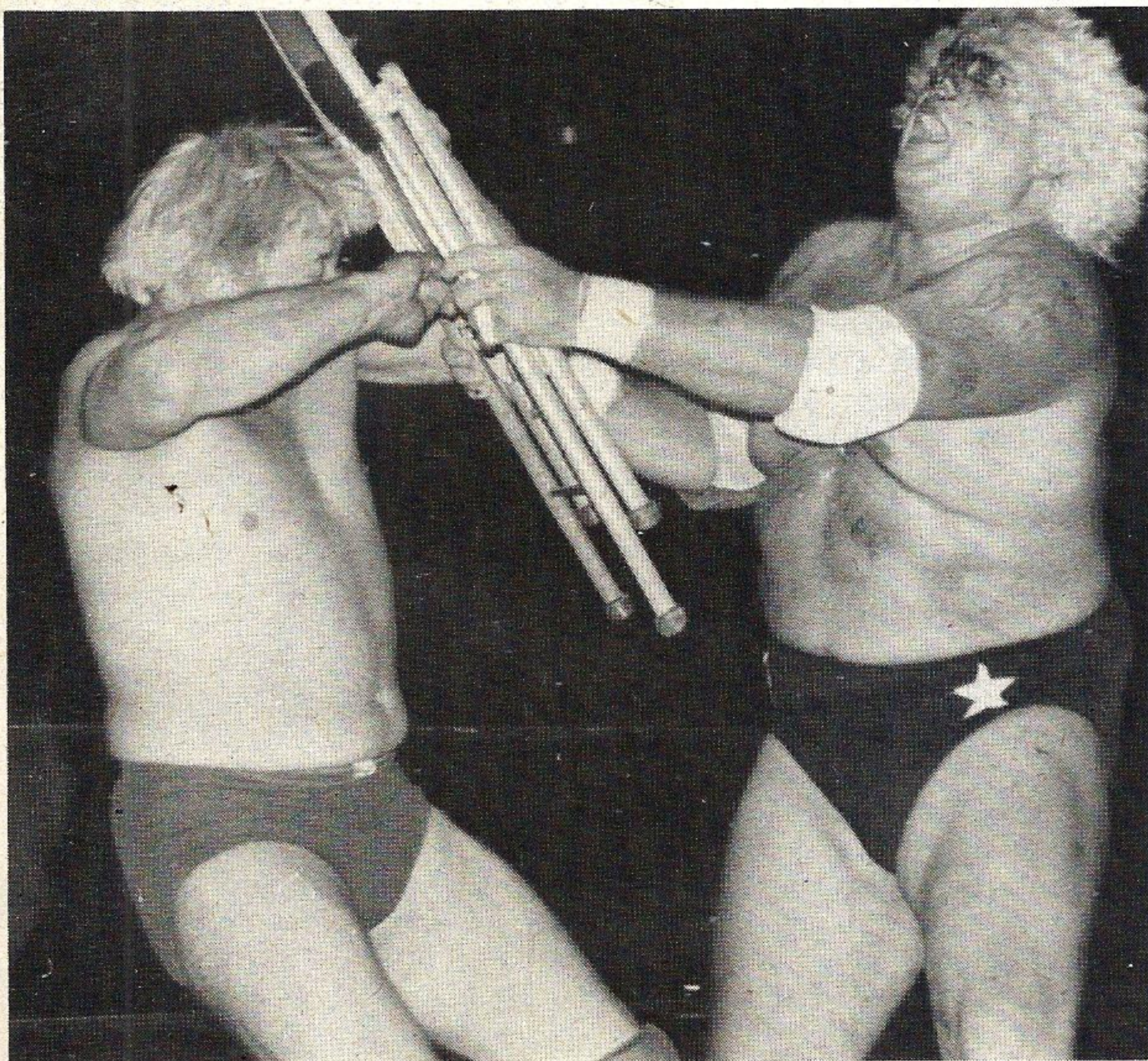
I think I should score better than 8.0 on repertoire, though. I can come up with some pretty complex maneuvers when the spirit moves me. Maybe I don't use so many maneuvers in a single match—economy again. Wasted motions just to look good for the "experts" never occurred to me. I wrestle for the fans, who want me to win. If that means I score an 8.0 on "repertoire," so be it. The same thing goes for "finishing maneuvers."

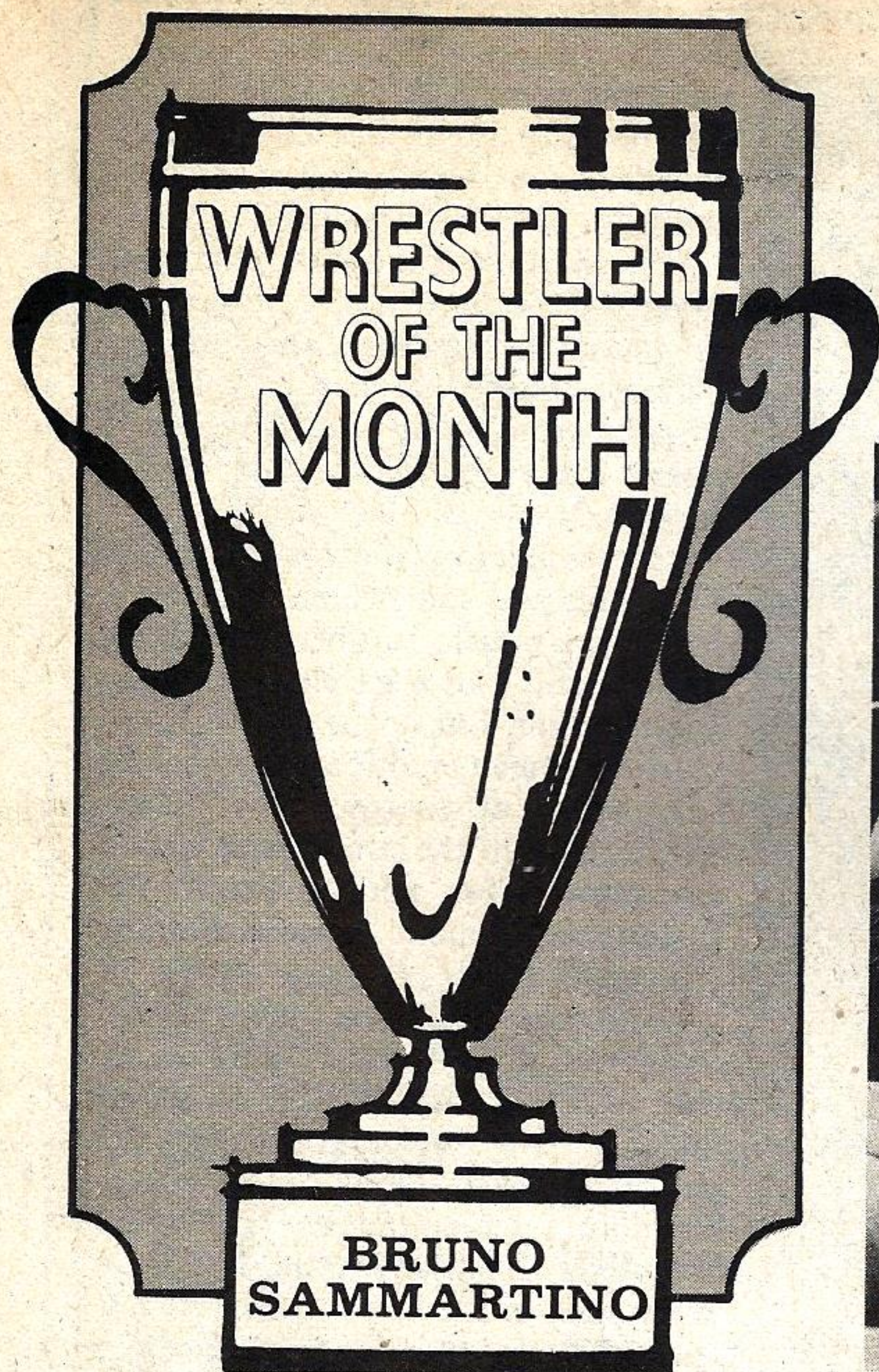
I can't disagree on much else, except maybe "ability to absorb punishment." 10.0. Superman gets a 10.0; I'm human. No person can absorb punishment forever. I can take my share, but no more. Thanks for the compliment, but I really don't deserve it.

If you want to know what I liked best, it was my Intelligence score. A 9.5 in intelligence. I'd like to send that out to a few of my teachers from school. A 9.5 in intelligence, Mrs. Barnes, you scrawny old bag. And she said I couldn't get anywhere with my brains. I make more in a week than she does in a year!

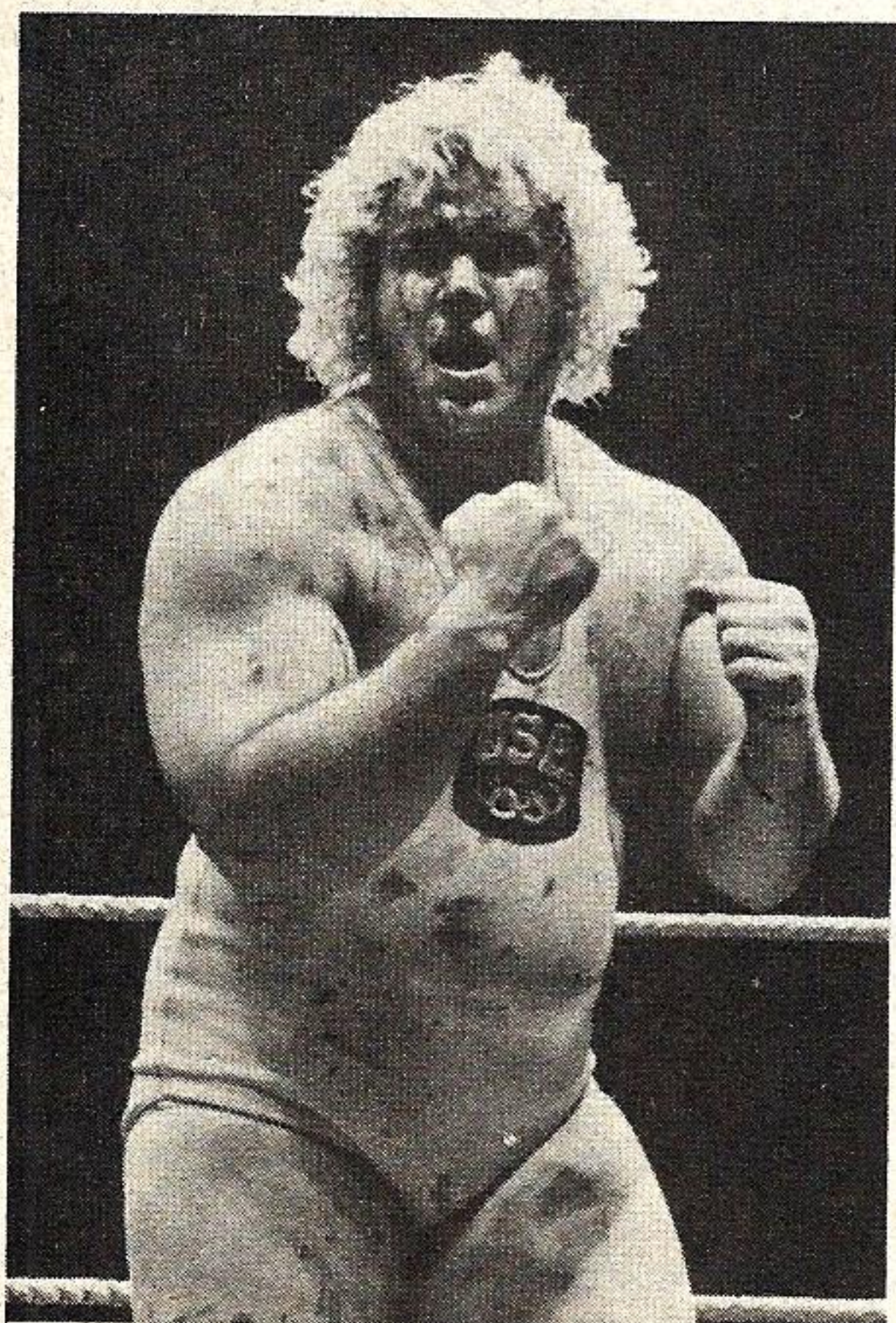
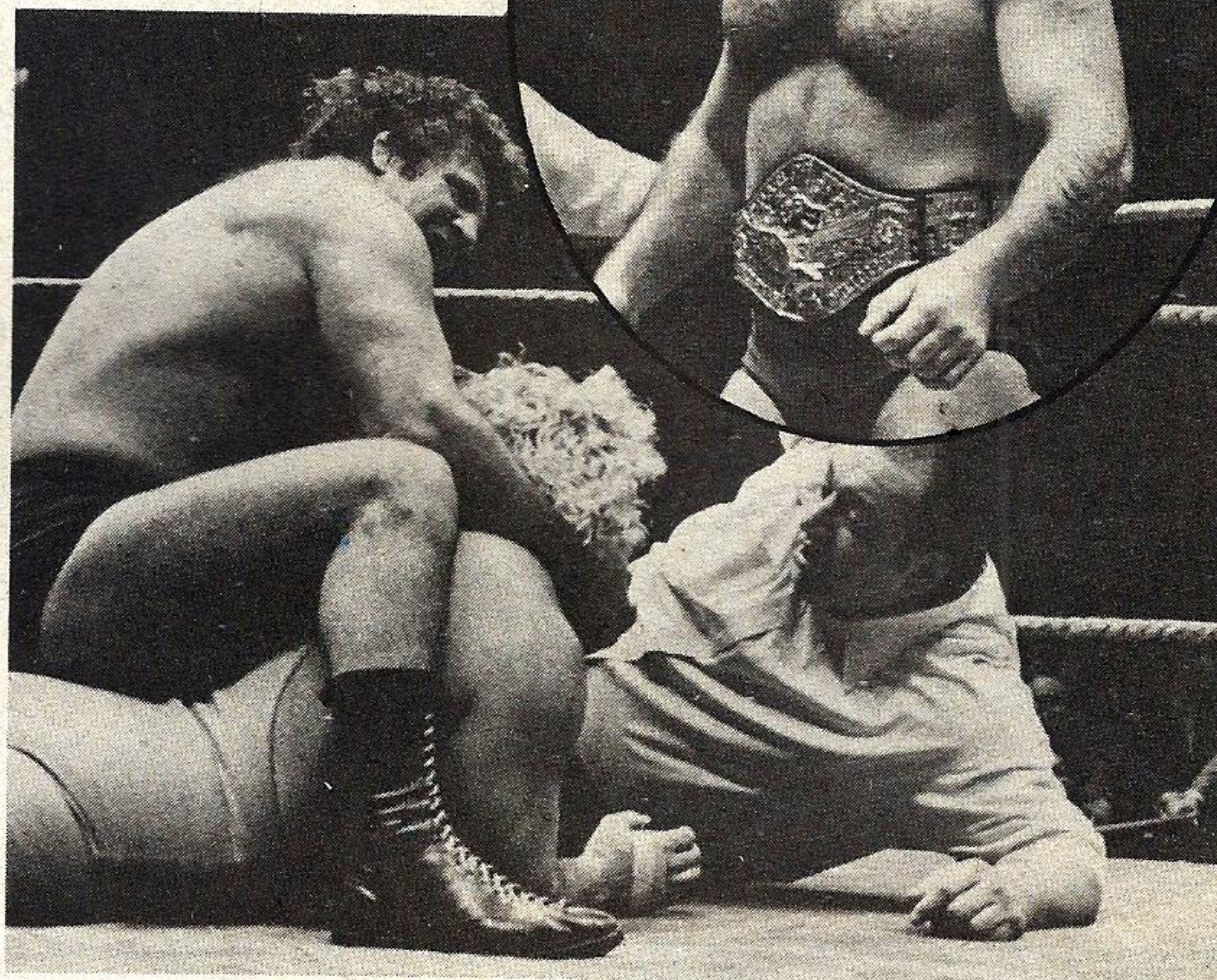
Well, that about covers it. I'd like to thank the editors for scoring me so well. It's nice to be appreciated. □

Late in a match against Terry Funk (above), Dusty is able to perfectly execute an elbow smash. Because of his great stamina, Dusty was rated at 10.0 in that particular category. Dusty was rated at only 8.0 in poise because he tends to brawl when he is in trouble. Against Ray Stevens (below), Rhodes abandoned his strategy and started brawling with a chair.





Bruno Sammartino has been named Wrestler of the Month (oval). He won this honor because of the very difficult match he had against Ken Patera (below).



A bloody and battered Ken Patera wants to continue the battle (above), but is prevented from doing so.

FOR HIS REMARKABLE victory over Ken Patera in their third and final Madison Square Garden confrontation, we honor Bruno

Sammartino as Wrestler of the Month.

In a few short months, Patera has gone from scientific wrestler to one of the sport's most feared rule-breakers. Under the tutelage of manager Lou Albano, Patera posed one of the most dangerous threats ever to Sammartino's title. Patera is considered by many to be the strongest man in wrestling. Bruno, without the advantage of strength, is like Samson without his hair. All that remains is determination and courage.

Bruno needed no more to condemn Patera to ignoble defeat. All the majesty of Sammartino's remarkable career seemed to be channeled into this one magnificent conquest. Using every maneuver at his command, every trick in his remarkable mind, Bruno dominated the battle. Patera went from confident grappler to overwhelmed victim with shocking speed.

What makes this victory so noteworthy is not in the way in which it was done but that it was accomplished at all. Patera is young, powerful, and ambitious, a

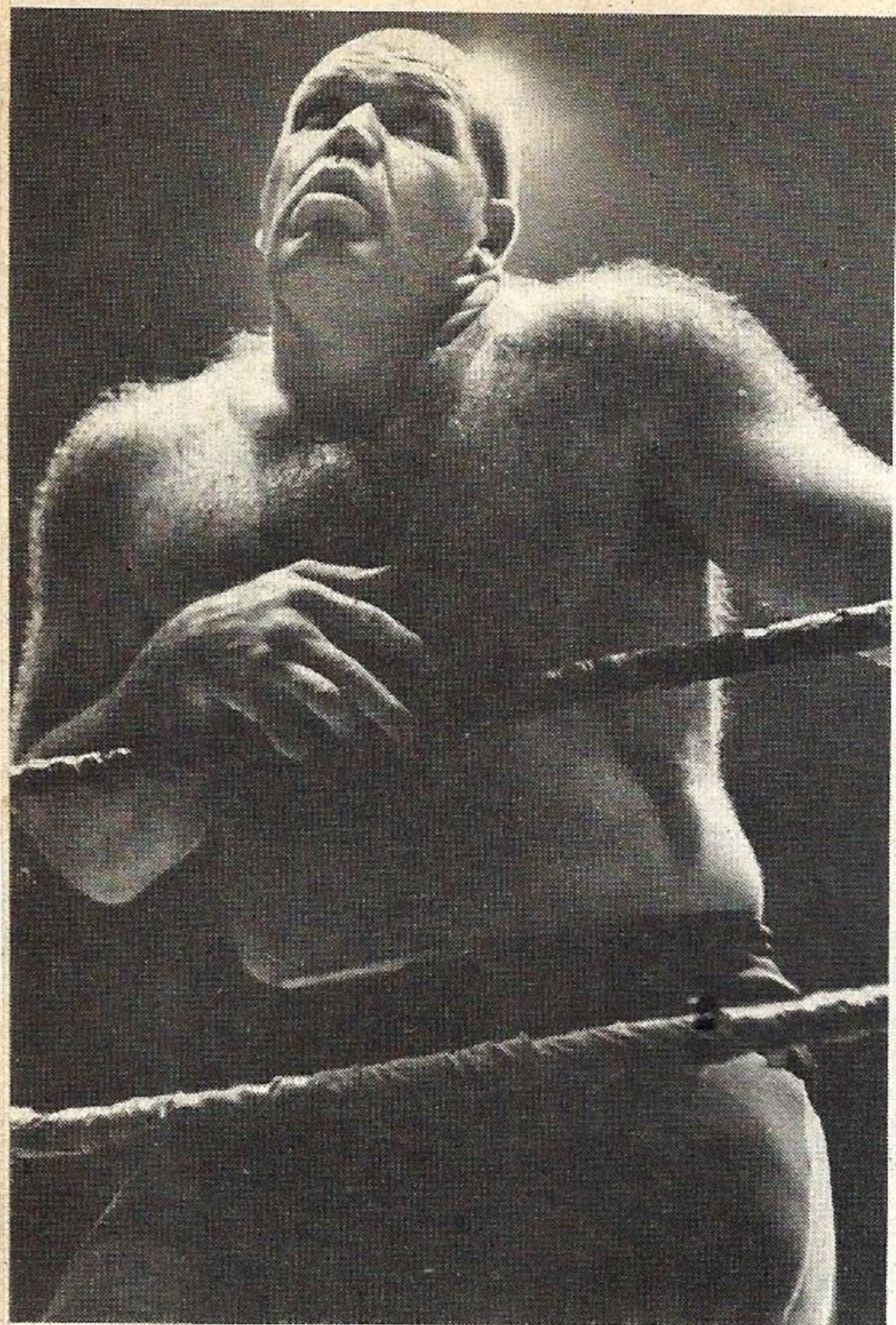
man driven to title glory and riches. He had all the tools to defeat Sammartino. Many experts went to the match expecting to see a new champion be crowned.

As for Bruno, he has been a man haunted by rumor and conjecture. People have been saying for too long he is ready to fall. He has experienced some close matches against tough opposition. Some say he had no tougher competition than Patera. If his skills had indeed diminished, this would be the match to prove it.

The decent members of the wrestling community were delighted with the results. Sammartino showed strength great enough to turn back one of the strongest men in wrestling history. Bruno's maneuvers were executed with superb precision. His coordination was impeccable. All in all, he proved himself once again to be a living legend and a credit to the sport.

Of course, one cannot become wrestler of the month without overcoming great competition.

(Continued on page 56)



THE ANIMAL NO CAGE CAN HOLD

THE DRESSING ROOM door at the end of the hall is locked tight. No one can get out. No one can get in, but who would want to stay if they could? Only one man holds the key to that door—Lou Albano. And even he is slightly afraid to unlock the door.

A wild cry is emitted from inside the room. The sound of a wooden chair crashing against the lock can be heard. Whoever or whatever is inside that room wants to get out. Fortunately, the lock is very strong. It holds up in spite of the assault.

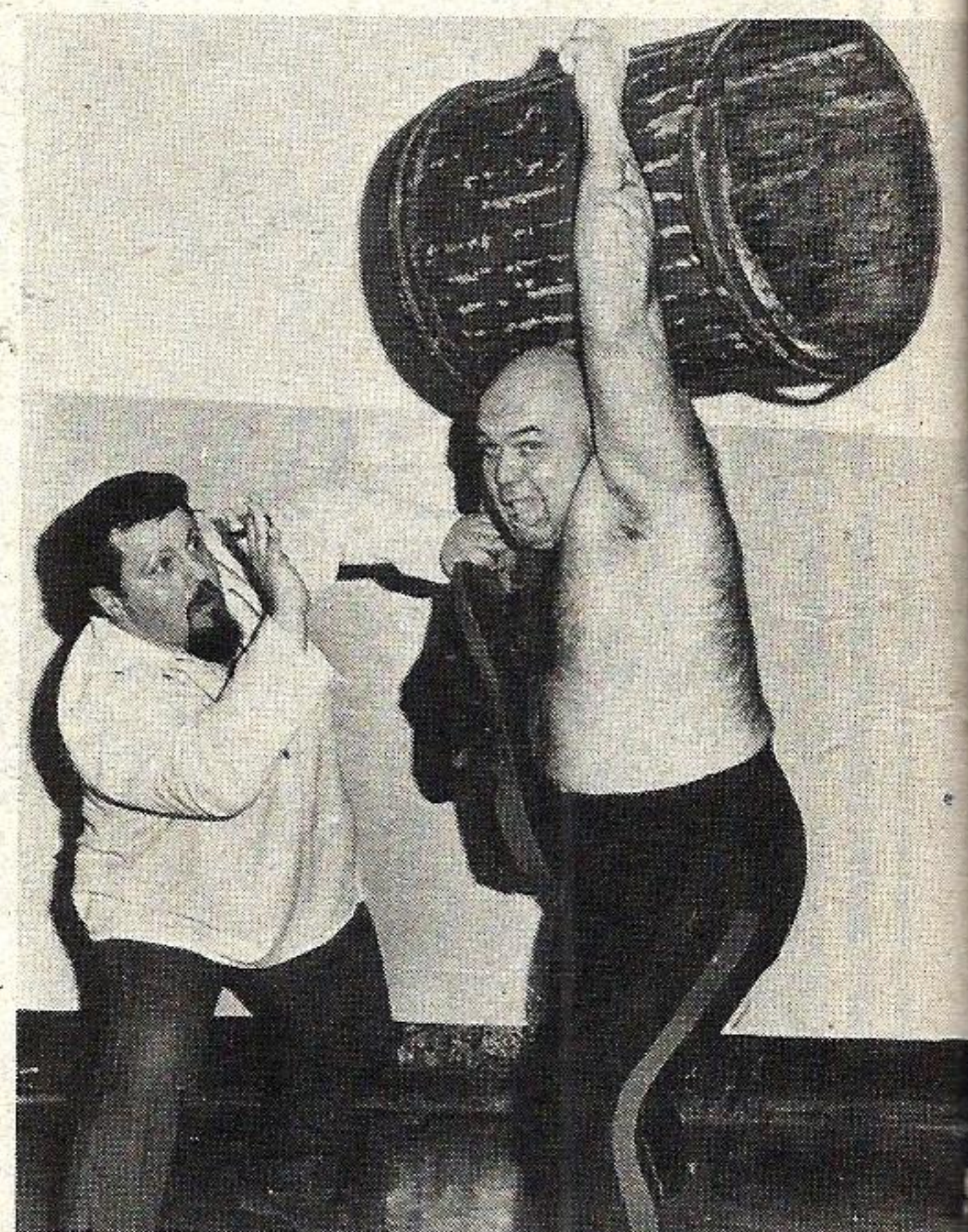
Lou Albano comes strutting down the hall, followed by two armed guards who look like refugees from a World War II movie. Carefully he takes out the key and slowly unlocks the door. He is obviously afraid he is going to regret the decision to open the door even before he does so. The two guards stand close behind Albano, ready to rush in at the slightest sign of trouble. As the door handle turns, an angry

growl can be heard coming from the room. Albano and the two armed guards quickly enter the dressing room and lock the door behind them.

A few minutes later, the door is again unlocked. Albano emerges first. He looks around to make sure as few people as possible are nearby. When he decides everything is all right, he signals the guards to emerge. They enter the hallway, one each bestride George "The Animal" Steele. One look at this man makes it clear why all these precautionary measurements are necessary.

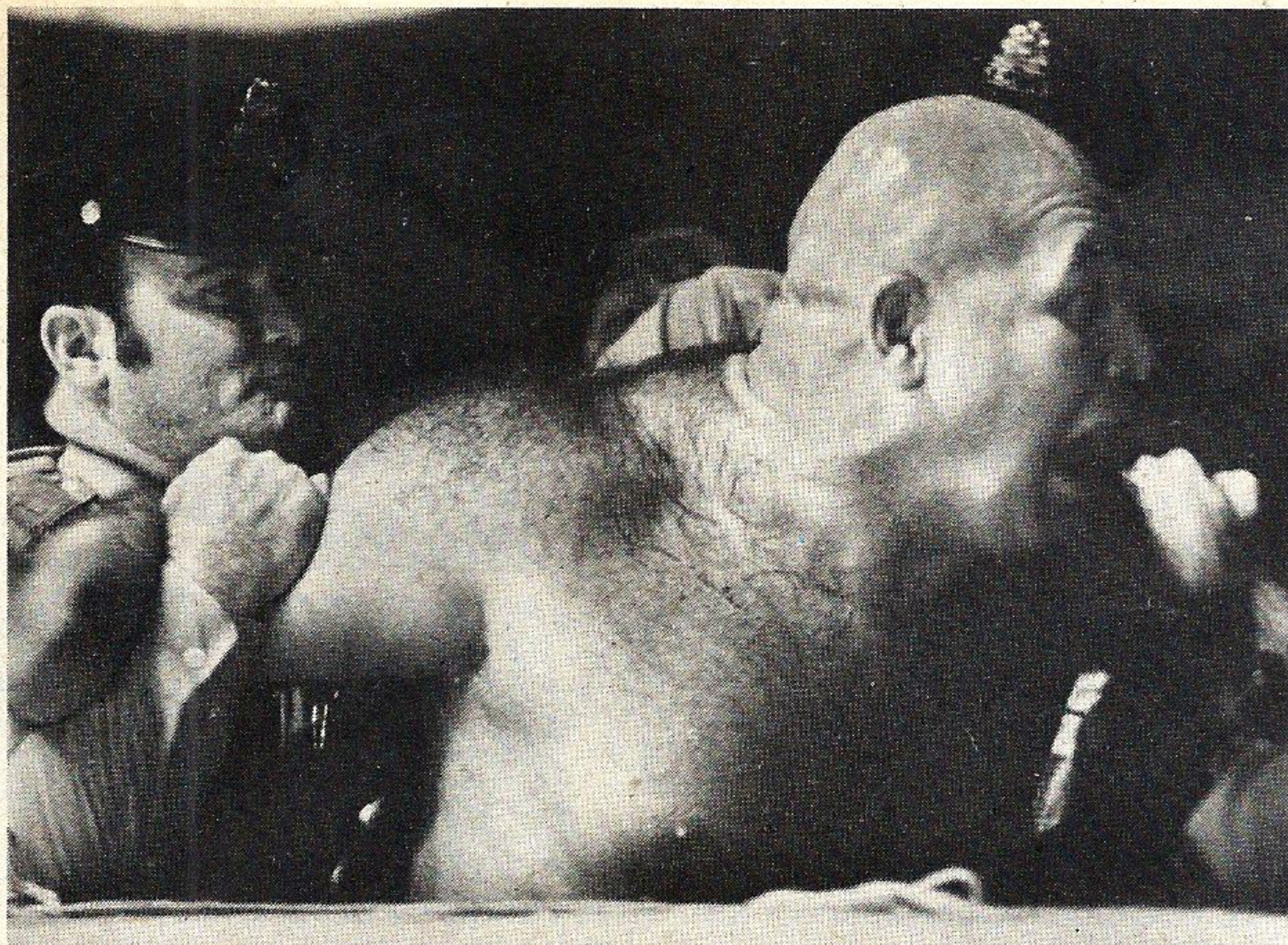
Now that Albano has reacquired the services of George Steele, he is making sure nothing happens to his wrestler. But he is also making sure his new wrestler does no damage to anyone else—except inside an arena. Then Albano lets Steele go wild.

And indeed, in the ring, George Steele is an animal—a wild animal. He has been known to savage opponents

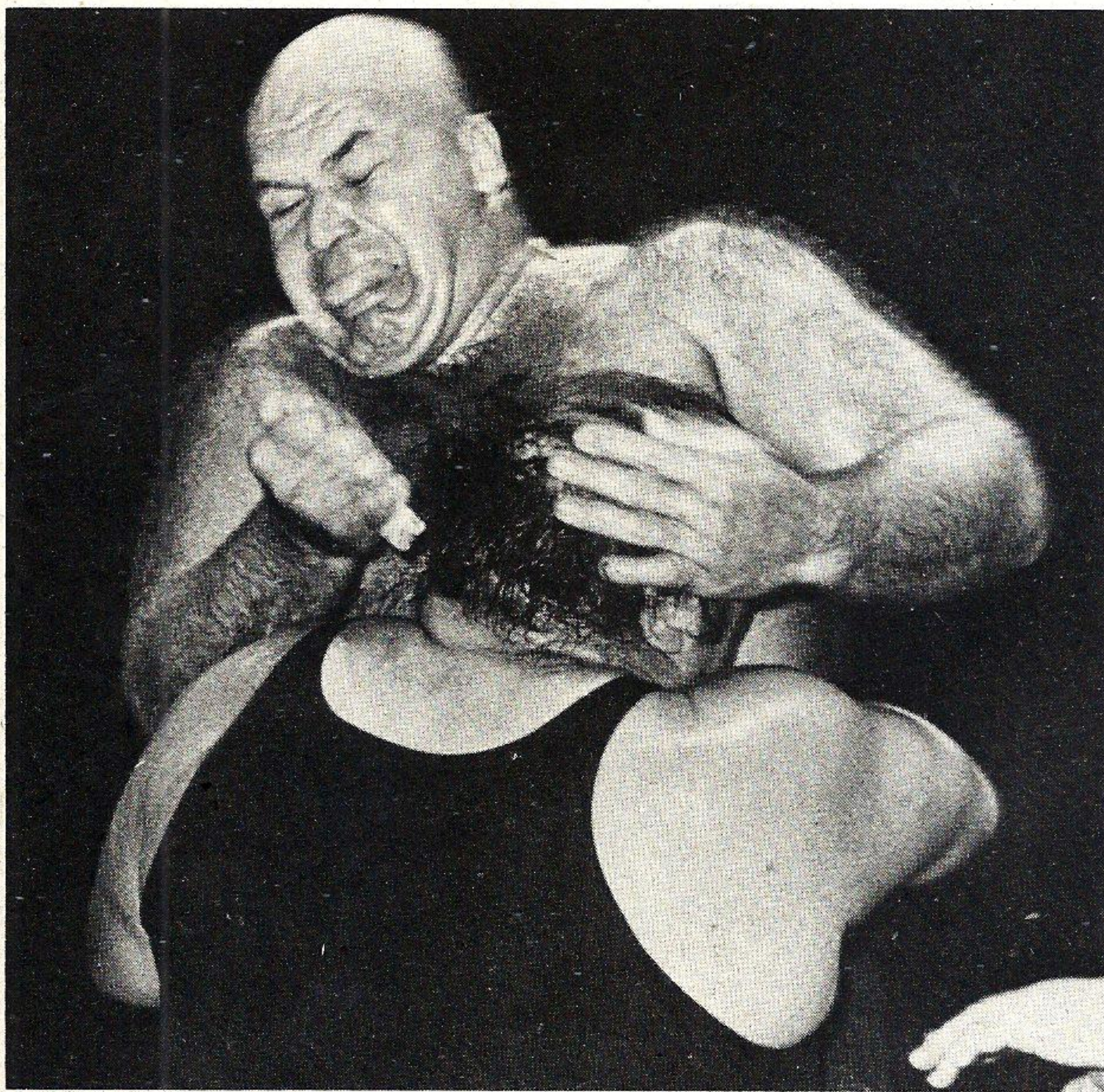


George "The Animal" Steele is a very difficult wrestler to control. Just ask his manager, Captain Lou Albano, shown above trying to restrain George.

There's a reason George Steele is called "The Animal." No one need explain after his opponent is dragged from the arena and rushed to the hospital. Every time Steele wrestles, those who love his foe weep and pray



Even special policemen have a difficult time trying to control George Steele (above). When he is unleashed in the ring, George goes absolutely wild, as Gorilla Monsoon has discovered (below). When he's not wrestling, George is kept under very strict supervision by Albano.



with unparalleled ruthlessness. He doesn't care that his opponents have to be carried out of the arena on stretchers. He doesn't realize what it means, except that it makes Lou Albano very happy. And George wants to keep Albano happy. After all,

Albano controls George's life.

There has been no peace since Albano brought George Steele back to the WWF. Many wrestlers in the association remember Steele from the last time he was there. They want to have nothing to do with him this time.

But somehow, Albano has been able to find opponents for Steele. However, these men do not wrestle George a second time. It is hard to grapple when you are laid up in a hospital.

Of course, there is a reason Lou Albano has brought George Steele back to the WWF—Bruno Sammartino. Though Steele has wrestled Bruno before, this time Albano is confident his wrestler can take the belt from the WWF champion. "I've taught him a few new maneuvers," said Albano. "To say the least, he is more dangerous than he ever was before!"

Watching Steele in the ring proves Albano's point. George seems to be more savage, less restricted, more cruel, than he was the last time he came to the WWF. If this is the result of Albano's training, then the manager has succeeded.

But even Albano has a few worries about his wrestler. "There are times," said Albano, "when George becomes almost impossible to control. Then I know it is time for him to wrestle another man. Since I have to keep him under lock and key most of the time, he builds up a lot of anger. If I can't find a man fast enough, he could get very testy. Fortunately, I haven't had that problem so far.

"Of course, I won't go near him without those two armed guards. There's no question about it, that man is dangerous. I'm glad I don't have to get in the ring to wrestle him.

"In many ways, George Steele is one of the best wrestlers I have ever had the privilege to manage. He destroys all his opponents. I like that. I just wish I didn't have to keep him locked up all the time. After all, I never can tell how well those locks are going to stand up to him!"

For the sake of everyone else, those locks had better stand up well. It would be unfortunate if George got loose in an arena. Certainly no one would be safe, not the wrestlers, not the fans, maybe not even those two armed guards.

And it would indeed be unfortunate if Steele were able to do to Bruno Sammartino what he's done to many other men he has faced. Then Steele would own the WWF belt, and that could be the worst disaster of all! □

WHERE IS

IT SEEMS STRANGE. Usually, when a champion loses his title, he tries desperately and immediately afterwards to try and regain his belt. But it has been difficult with Terry Funk. He has disappeared.

Or has he?

When Harley Race won the NWA title from Terry Funk, it was naturally assumed Funk would immediately issue a challenge for a rematch. Instead, Terry said nothing. He left the arena, and his face has not been seen since in public.

Or has it?

ITEM: Terry Funk was severely injured during the match against Race. It is possible there has been some kind of damage requiring extensive hospitalization.

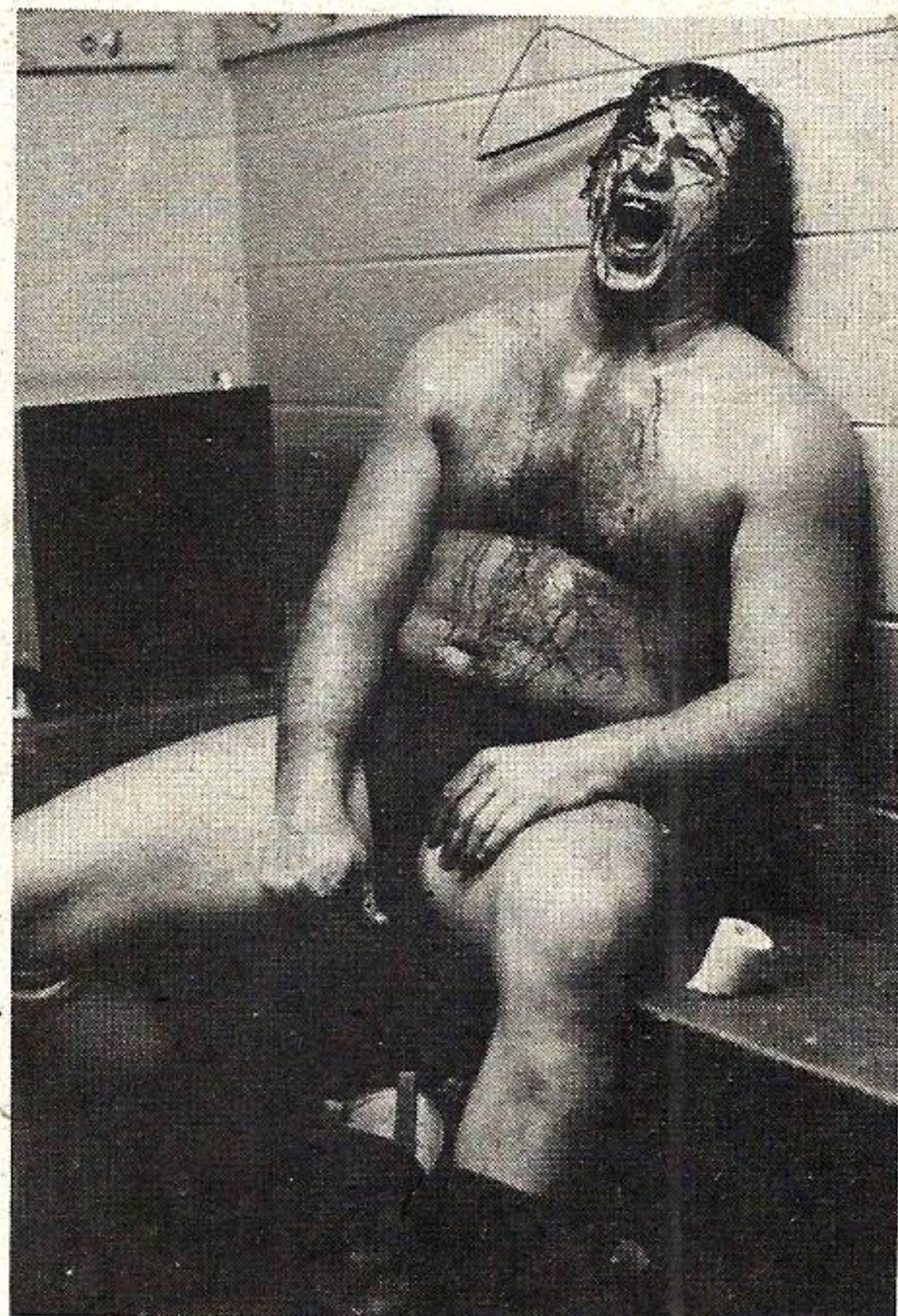
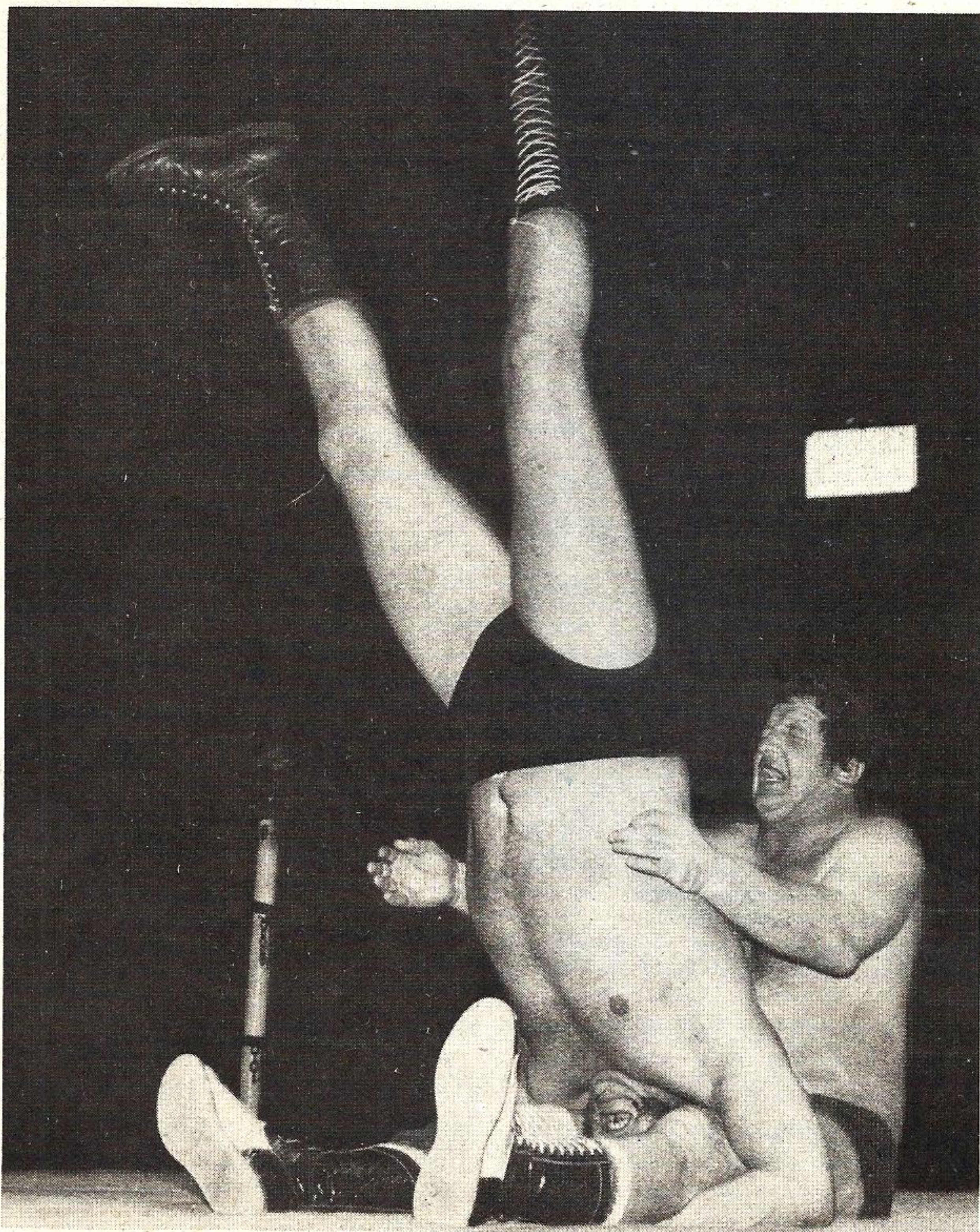
ITEM: A new masked wrestler has been appearing all over the country since the change in NWA champion. The masked man has a wrestling style similar to that of Terry Funk, though there are some noticeable differences.

ITEM: Official spokesman for the Funk family have continually refused to divulge the whereabouts of the ex-champion. They also refuse to comment on any

speculation by the press.

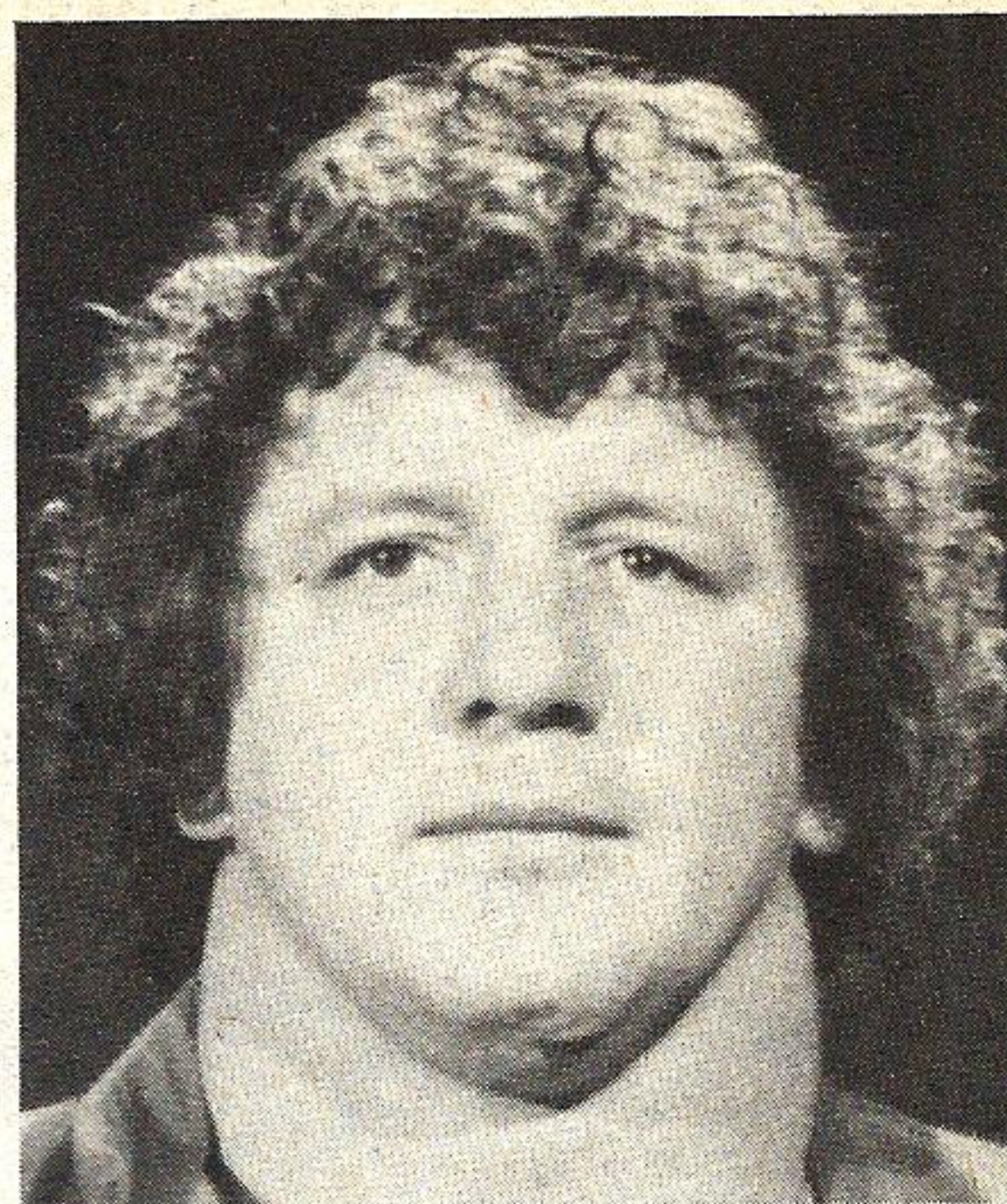
ITEM: Extensive modifications are being made to the Funk family ranch. No one will explain the nature of the modifications, the cost of the changes, or why they are being made.

ITEM: The NWA has not changed Terry's status from "active" to "inactive" yet. However, there has been a move afoot in the front office to make the change. Pressure from the Funk family has prevented this, so far.



Even though he has been seriously hurt in many matches (above), Funk never had as many injuries as he had when he met Harley Race in Toronto and lost the NWA belt (left). When he was champion, Terry wrestled men like Chavo Guerrero (opposite page right).

All of wrestling is searching for Terry Funk, who has strangely disappeared after losing the NWA title to Harley Race. What is the reason for this? Here are a few of the more popular explanations



ERRY FUNK?

It is quite clear that something unusual is happening, and Terry Funk and his family is involved. No one has dared to make any formal accusations yet, but this may change soon. And though it may appear the five listed items are unrelated, close examination reveals there may well be something going on which Terry Funk does not want the public to know about.

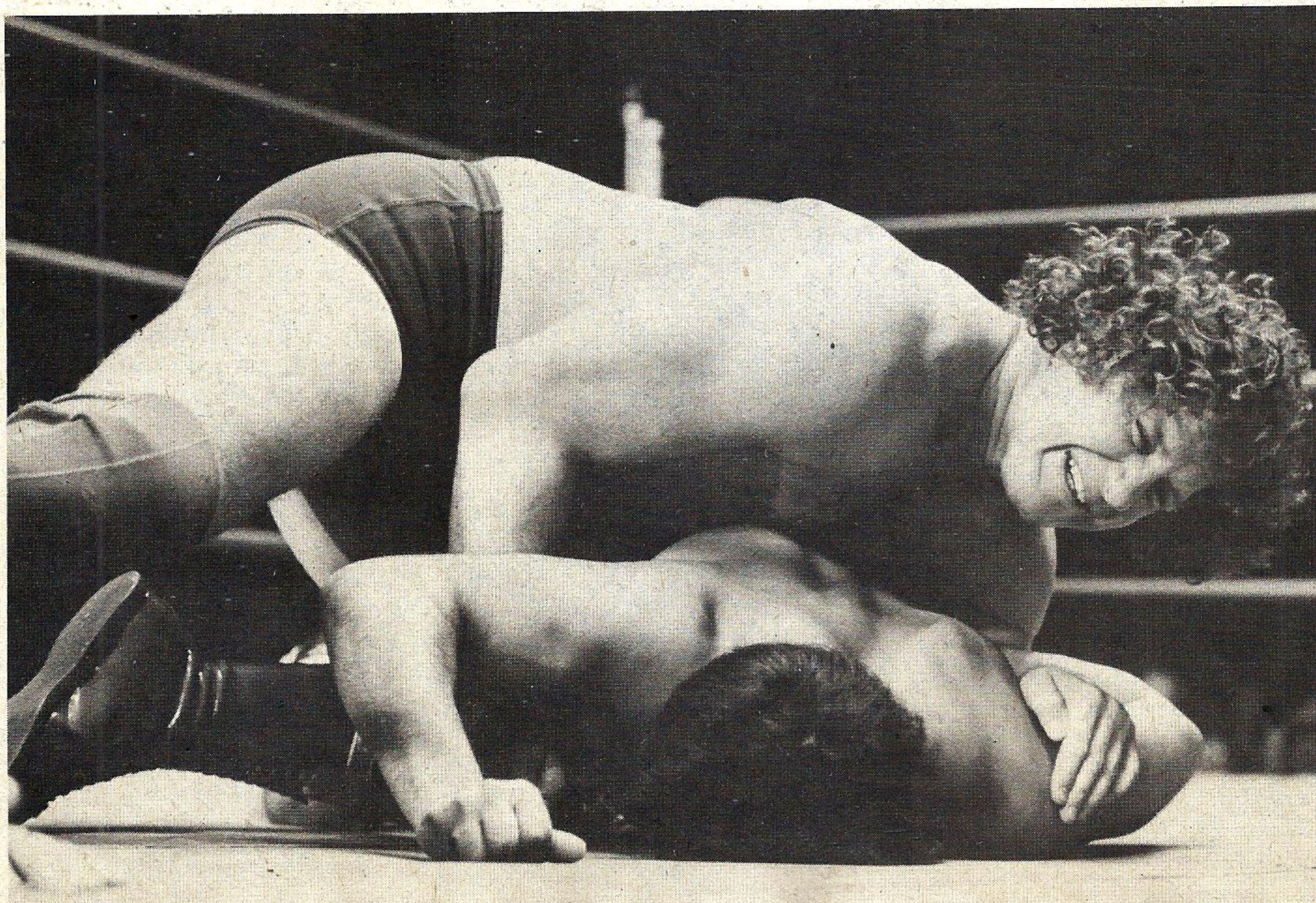
The speculation is this: Terry Funk was severely injured in his

match against Harley Race. This is why he was forced to submit, though he maintained he never did give in. What is known for sure is that Funk left the arena on a stretcher, headed for the hospital. The speculation is that he was not immediately released upon arrival; that he stayed there several days—even weeks—before he was allowed out. It could be that he is still there. That much is not known.

However, if Terry was released, he definitely was not in so good a

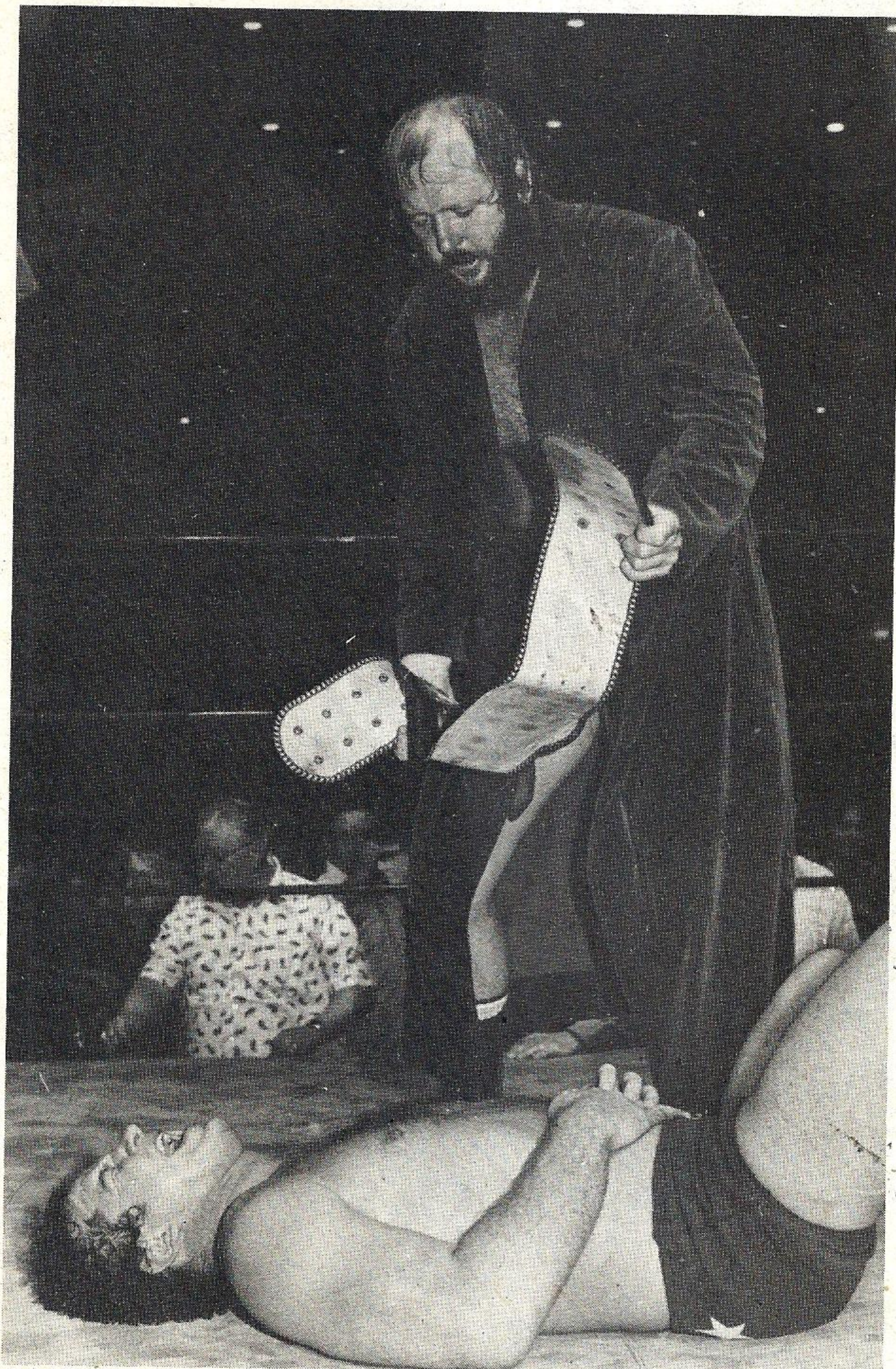
condition as he was before he lost the belt. Terry Funk is a proud man, and he certainly would not want anyone knowing he was not at the best of his abilities. Yet it would still be necessary for him to wrestle if he wanted to insure a complete recovery. Therefore there was a need for Funk to adopt a secret identity; to hide his face behind a mask. And it would also be necessary that this be done in absolute secrecy.

The Funk family has always been

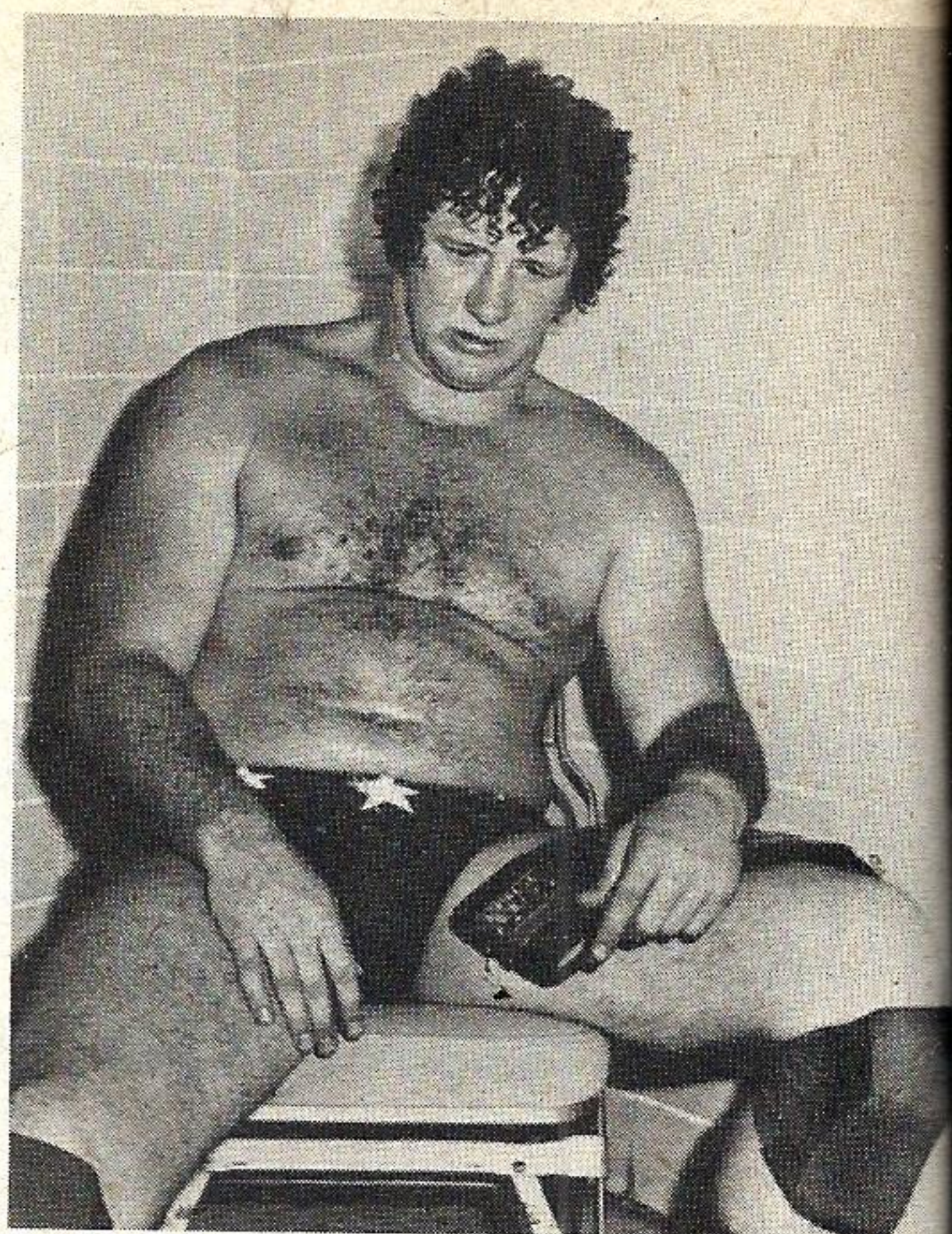


proud of the accomplishments of Terry and Dory Jr. For them to suddenly remain silent clearly indicates something is dreadfully wrong with Terry. But they must be confident that whatever Terry's problem is, it is not so great it cannot be overcome. Therefore, they have put pressure on the main office of the NWA not to put Terry on the "inactive" list. They must know he is coming back.

But that still does not solve the present mystery: Where is Terry Funk, and why don't those who know his whereabouts want to talk about it. Is he in danger? Will he truly be making a comeback, or has Terry quietly sneaked off and retired from the sport? Has he suffered too many injuries to his body to cause him to be physically unfit for the mat wars again? Is Terry the man behind the mask of



Dory Funk Jr. comes to the assistance of his stricken brother after a hard match against Jose Lothario. Now Dory is helping his brother by refusing to disclose Terry's whereabouts. What secret is the Funk family trying to hide from the general public and the press?



Could it be that Terry Funk's days as a wrestler are numbered? Or is he now wrestling with a mask on his face? It is important that these questions are answered as soon as possible!

that mysterious new masked wrestler? All these questions must be answered.

The key figure in this whole situation is Dory Funk Jr. One look at his face reveals the man is obviously worried about something. Is he worried about Terry's future? It is possible. He has absolutely refused to talk about Terry or his whereabouts. When Terry was champion—and even before—Dory would talk for hours about what his younger brother was doing. Now he is silent. Why?

And what of the extensive modifications being made to the Funk ranch? The speculation is that the house is being adapted for someone who is physically handicapped. However, it must be noted that is only speculation. No one knows for sure why the changes are being made, and the Funk family refuses to talk about them. However, if Terry has been crippled, extensive changes would have to be made to his house.

For now, the press is taking a wait-and-see attitude. If Terry does not show up soon, a full-scale investigation will have to begin. The many rumors surrounding the whereabouts of Terry Funk must be laid to rest once and for all. □

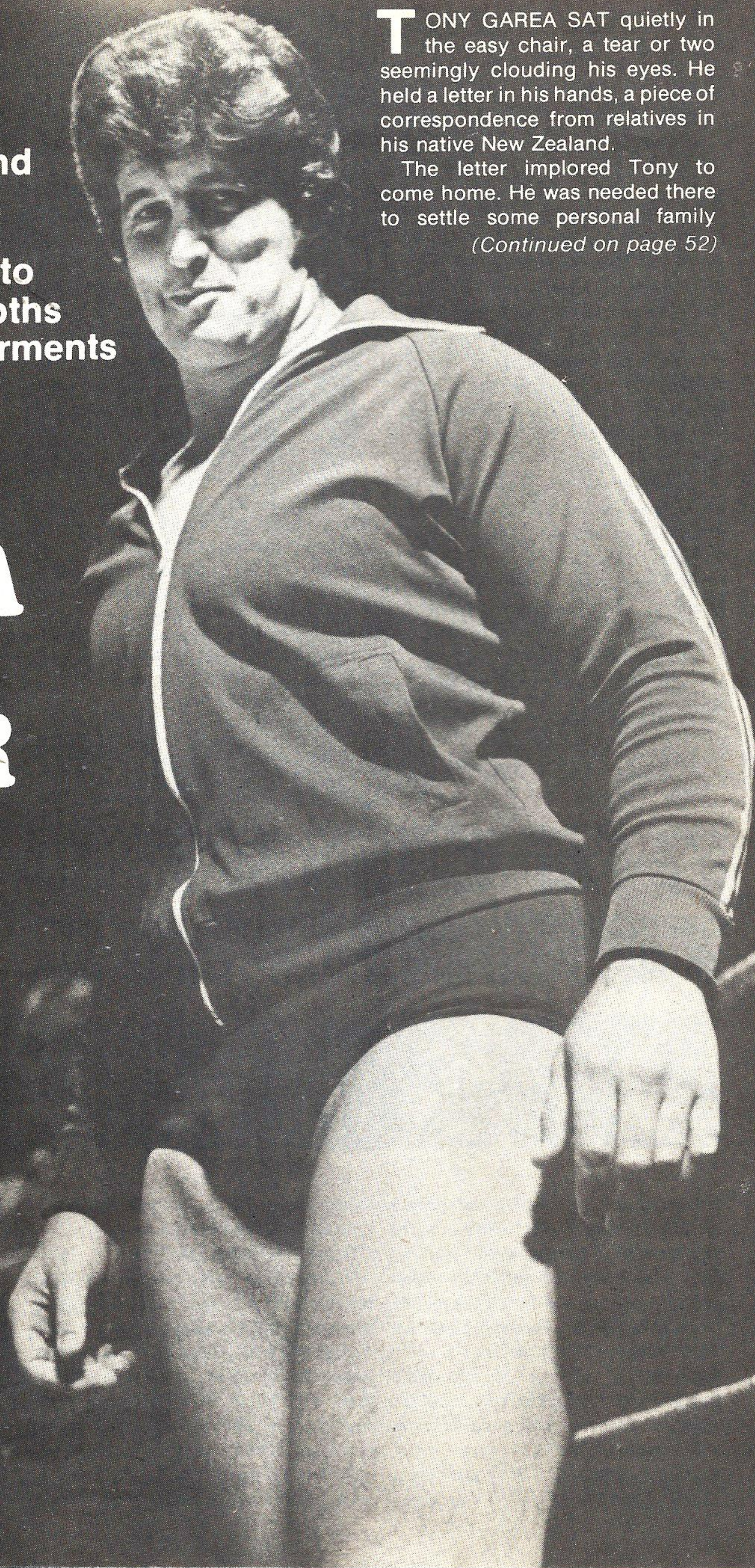
**His home was once
in New Zealand.
Now Tony Garea
claims no homeland
and seeks
no sanctuary. To
understand this is to
understand the depths
of this grappler's torments**

TONY GAREA CAN NEVER GO HOME

TONY GAREA SAT quietly in the easy chair, a tear or two seemingly clouding his eyes. He held a letter in his hands, a piece of correspondence from relatives in his native New Zealand.

The letter implored Tony to come home. He was needed there to settle some personal family

(Continued on page 52)



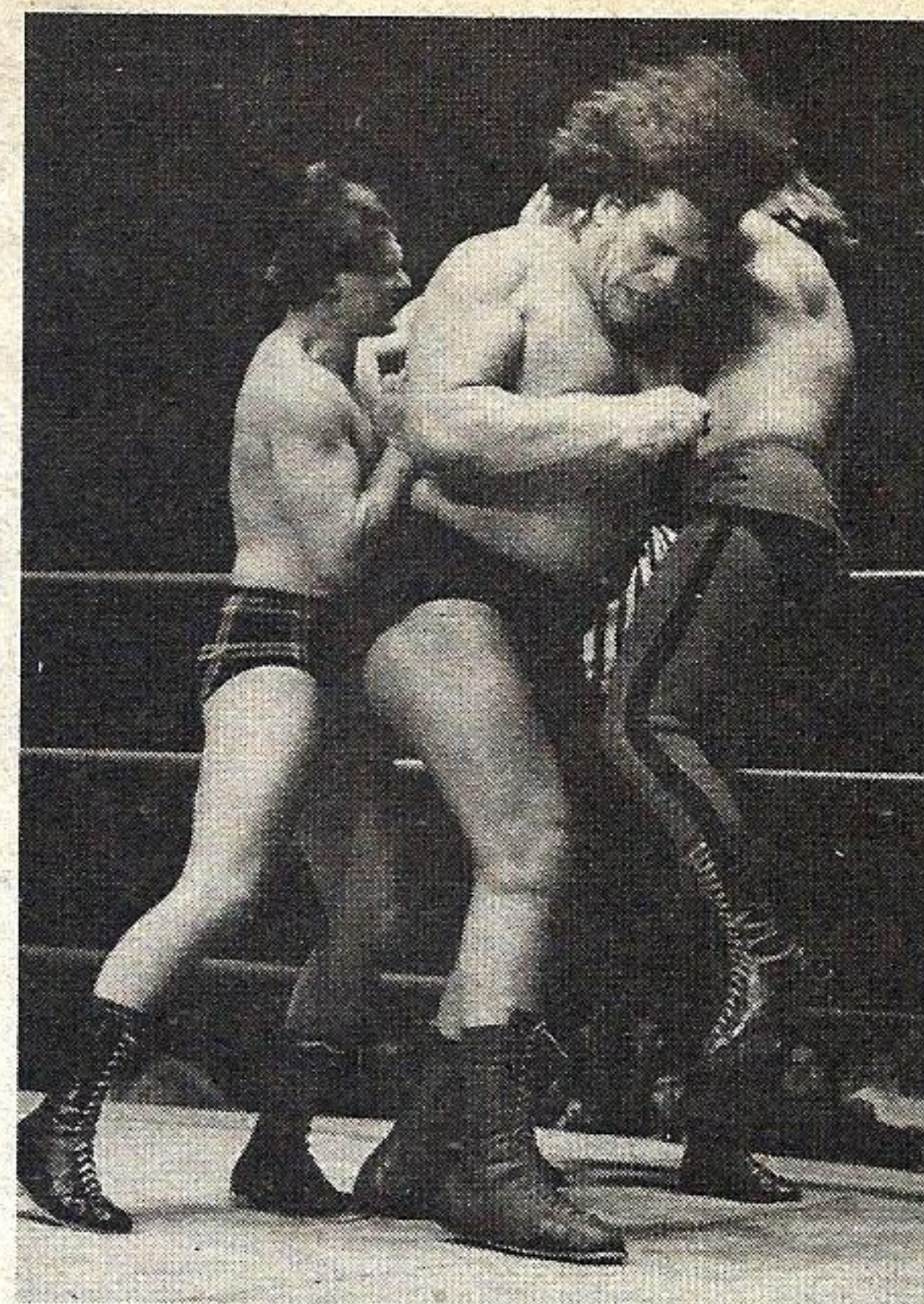
PITCH-BLACK DARKNESS, eerie silence. A tomb is like this. Have I suffered the worst of all possible fates, Andre the Giant wondered. Have I been buried alive? The hulking gargantuan tried to get up. He couldn't move. Panic stricken, he did the only thing possible: The man screamed for his life.

In less than a minute, light flooded the room. A woman dressed in white, a very temporal angel, came to his aid. The nurse let him examine his surroundings, a hospital room. Then she let him understand he was in traction. Struggling was the most self-destructive thing he could do. Andre lay limply on the bed. It all came back to him.

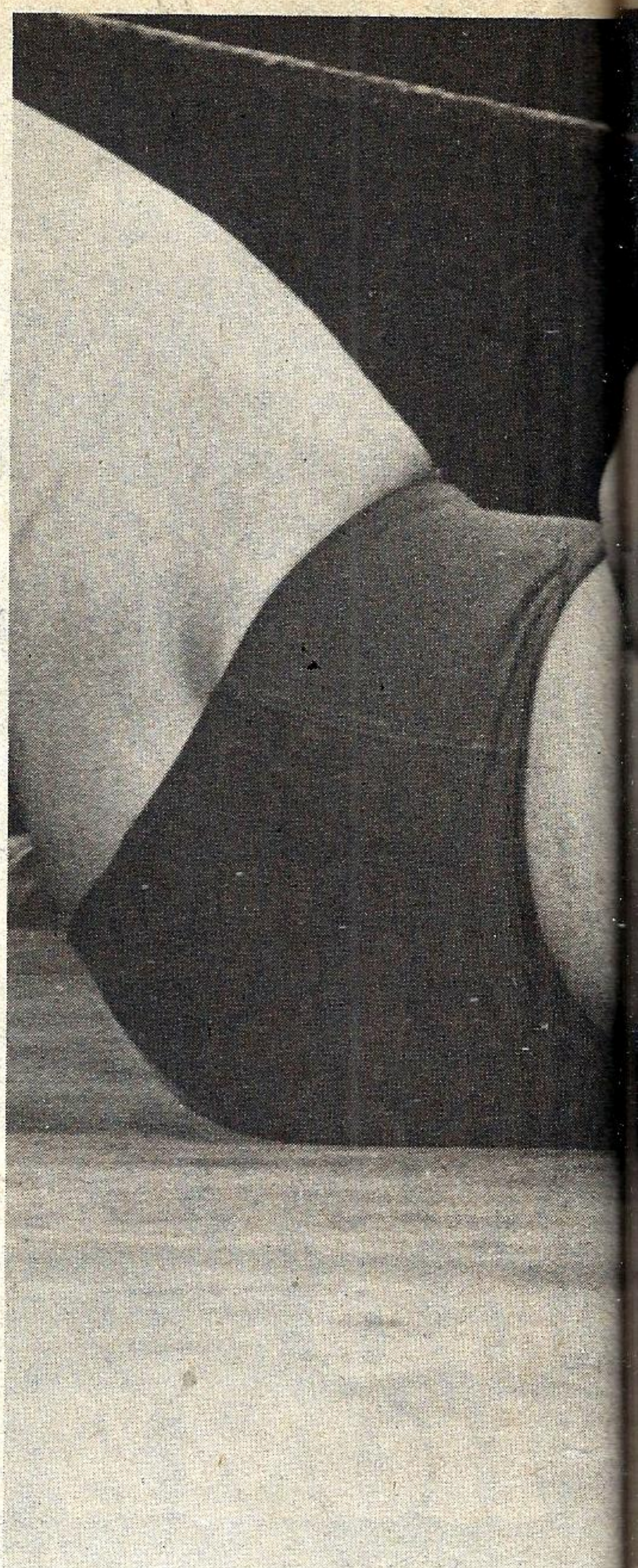
It had been a handicap match. His opponents had been Rock Riddle and Roddy Piper. All had been going well until Piper and Riddle had doubleteamed him. Then he remembered nothing else. Somehow, he had gone from the arena to traction.

"How did I get here?"

"Ambulance," the nurse asked,



When Andre the Giant wrestled against Rock Riddle and Roddy Piper (above), many people feared it would be his last match. Indeed, Andre seemed to be in so much pain (right), it appeared he would never rise from the canvas. But Andre surprised everyone the next day when he announced he had suffered no major injuries because of the battle!



ANDRE THE GIANT'S TERRIFYING BRUSH WI

hoping humor would be the proper bedside manner. Andre tried to smile but it couldn't penetrate the fear. So the nurse answered seriously, "You became unconscious during the match. I can give you the medical name for what happened, but it won't mean anything to either of us. In plain English, you were hit in the back of the neck, somehow injuring a major artery to the brain. Injury isn't the right word. The flow of blood was momentarily halted. That accounted for you losing

consciousness. If the artery had been injured, you'd be dead."

"Can I wrestle again?"

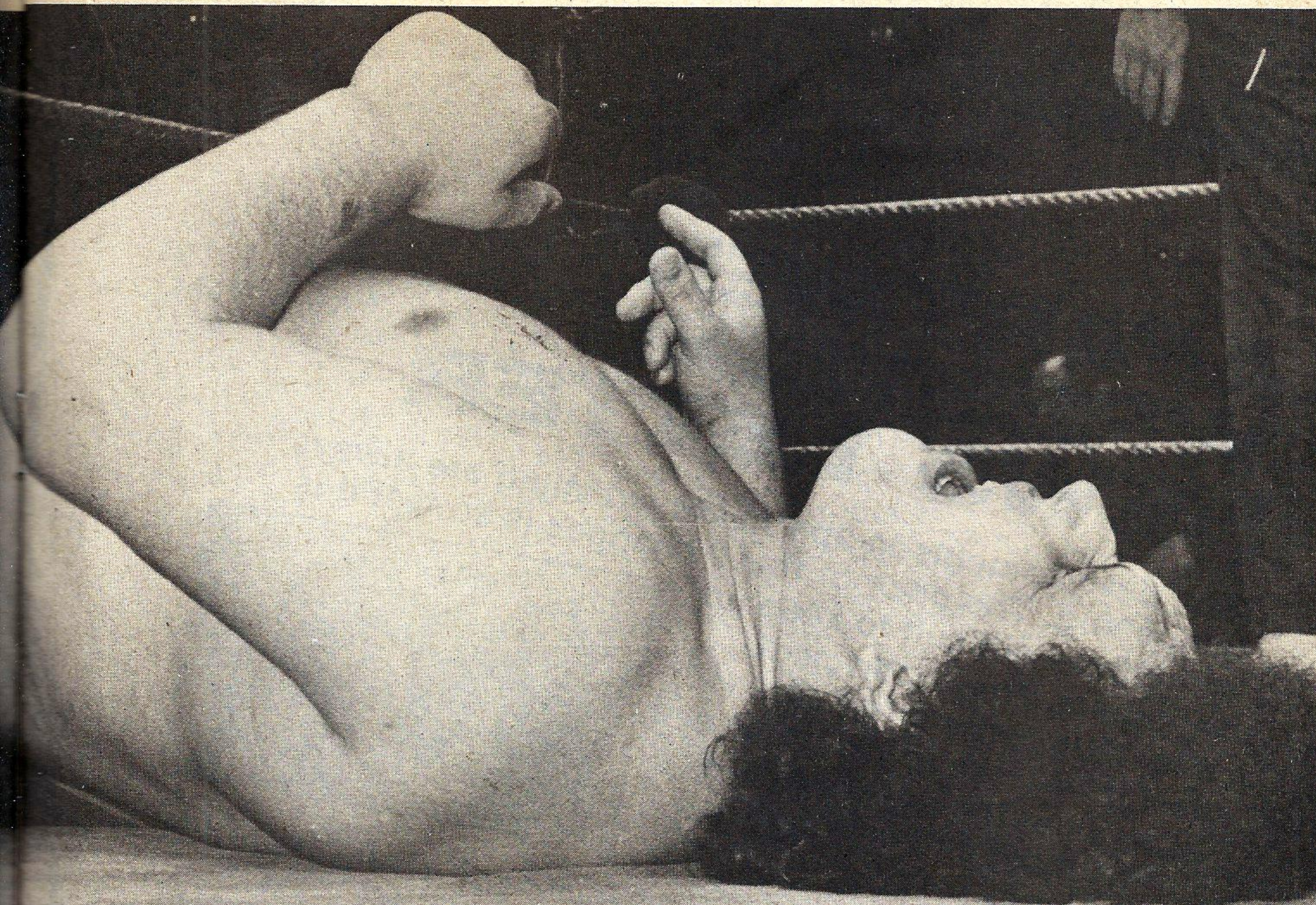
"I believe so, but you'll have to ask the doctors to be sure. They'll explain more about the whole thing."

Andre didn't sleep any more that night. Could the nurse be believed? In fact, was his career finished? How badly had he been hurt? The brain, the brain, the brain, there had been an injury to the brain. Would he be able to walk again? Was his motor co-

ordination destroyed? Was he crippled? Was he doomed?

Andre saw the sunrise that morning wondering how many more times he would greet the dawn. Hour after hour after hour crawled by. The morning nurse brought him medication and breakfast—but no new information. She did tell him not to worry. She must have been kidding.

It was almost noon when the doctor arrived. After waiting all that time, his mind filled with horrors, Andre found



There were moments when it appeared as if Andre the Giant would lose his life. The doctors say it was a freak accident, but that it could be repeated. It happened in an instant, but it changed Andre's entire life

TH DEATH

himself wishing the doctor had never come. At least while he waited there was hope. If the doctor had bad news, hope would be gone.

"There will be no lasting effects," the doctor began, allowing Andre to relax for the first time in what seemed an eternity. "You'll be just as good a wrestler as you always have been. However, I must warn you there were moments when it looked like your relatives would be making funeral arrangements. You're a very lucky

man.

"Let me tell you what happened and how it can be prevented. Your opponent, Roddy Piper, yanked back your head quickly, squeezing an artery. Now this should have been no more than a momentary stoppage of blood, causing almost indiscernable weakness. However, the blood stopped for a dangerously long time.

"What has been happening is a very gradual deterioration of the neck muscle near the artery. Due to a very

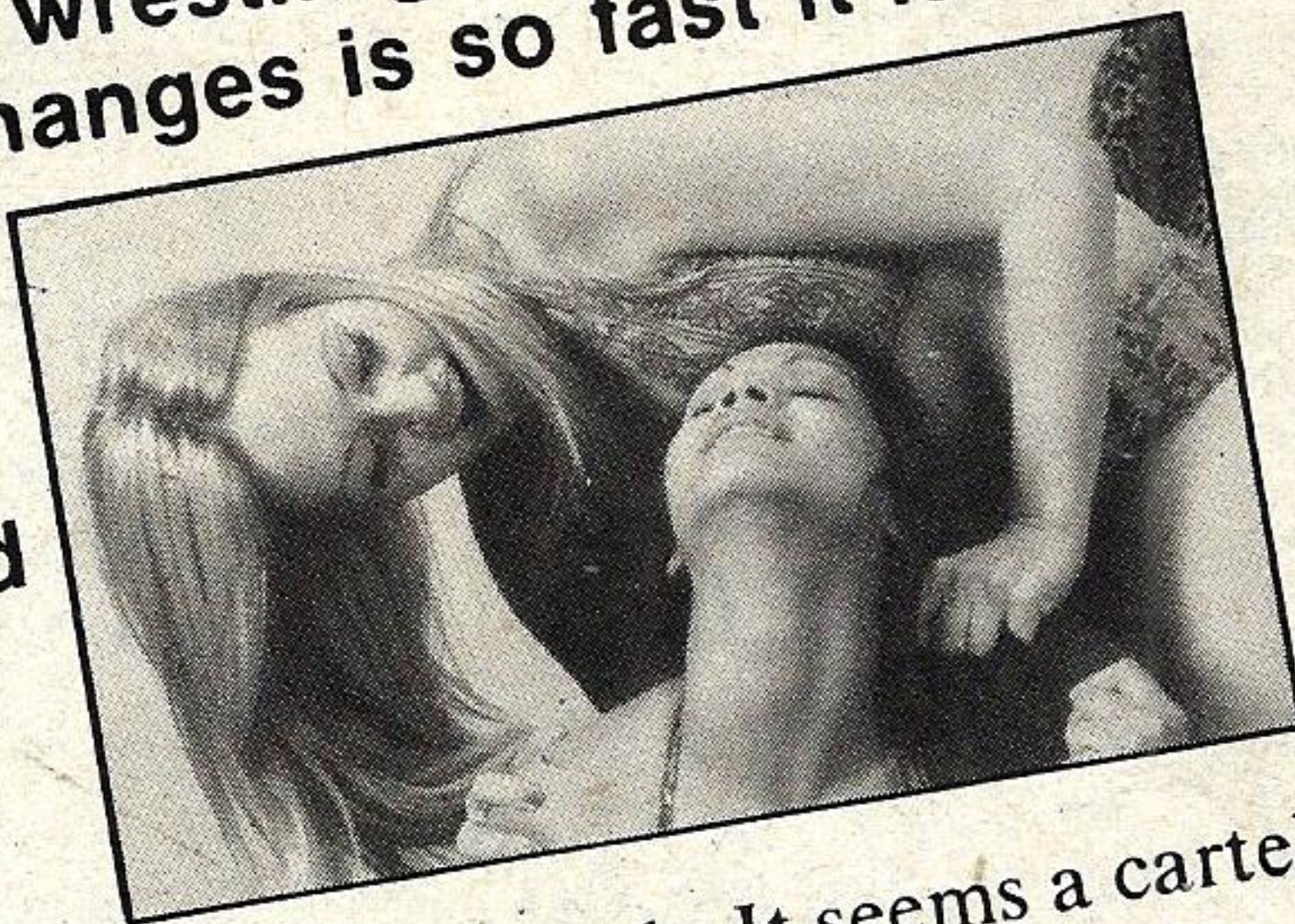
complicated situation, this leaves the artery exposed to danger. Of course, there is only a one in 1,000 chance a maneuver could be done that would bring on this situation. Most people would be vulnerable to this, only they never get in a position where it could happen.

"However, your profession makes you liable for this type of injury. Now, I don't want to seem to be saying you'll suffer this often. You could probably

(Continued on page 54)

APARTMENT WRESTLING NEWS LETTER

New developments in apartment wrestling are always happening. The pace of these changes is so fast it is sometimes difficult to keep up with them. The "Apartment Wrestling Newsletter" is designed to keep you informed as to what the latest news is in this most exciting, erotic sport!



THE BIG NEWS this month comes from New York. It seems a cartel of multi-millionaires, the richest men in the city, are trying to purchase a huge penthouse for the express purpose of making it an apartment wrestling palace. It seems the original owner decided not to purchase the fabulous abode, leaving the \$3.2 million complex available to any purchaser.

It has been over a year since the negotiations started. The businessmen, confident no one else will consider the penthouse, are offering \$2.6 million, on the condition the already spacious living room is enlarged by eliminating two adjoining rooms. Negotiations are still going on. One of the prospective purchasers says he's hopeful all will be completed by December 1977, although he cautions anyone about being optimistic.

When this much money is being considered, anything can happen. If their purchase is successful, New York will then become the Mecca of apartment wrestling. Part of the penthouse will be furnished as a gymnasium where the world's most beautiful athletes will hone their skills to perfection. There are even plans for a dormitory where some of the wrestlers can live rent-free, allowing them to devote more time to the

sport. (It will also make them more dependent on the sport for their livelihood, but all swear not to take an advantage of the situation.) It will be the dream site for every match.

Of course, other cities will still host exciting matches on a regular basis. Los Angeles is experiencing an infusion of new people both as spectator and participant. It appears the LA rock establishment, through a famous country singer and actor, has adopted the sport as the latest chic spectacle. What is most startling are the new participants in the sport. Some of the top female rock stars are begging to wrestle, either each other or experienced apartment wrestlers. So far, the ladies' agents have forbidden any of the matches to be photographed, but there is a chance that prohibition will be lifted. So don't be surprised if you're reading about an apartment wrestler while the battler's album is playing on your turntable.

There was a bit of flap in Vail, Colorado recently. It seems one of the hotel owners, desperate due to the lack of snow, decided to discreetly publicize the apartment wrestling matches which take place in the ski resort town about once every month. Of course, he had no right to promise his guests they would be allowed admission to the matches. So, when some rather unsavory characters were led into the penthouse, many of the spectators and both wrestlers protested. However, it seems the uninvited guests are not the type who suffer rejection gladly, nor are they the kind of people one should insult. Many threats were hurled, mostly involving broken legs. Though no one has been inflicted with injury so far, the hotel owner is *persona non grata* at any major Vail social gathering.

Once again, we invite readers to contribute ideas, information, and opinions on apartment wrestling. This newsletter is dedicated to improving the world's most erotic spectacle. It can only be as successful as its contributors. Remember, no idea is too outlandish. Even failures lead to the development of successes.

Quote of the month: Glencora, an apartment wrestler battling before a crowd largely made up of New York academics, observed, "It's like meeting the *Encyclopedia Britannica*!" □

Apartment Wrestling Shocker



All it took was a desperate man and an ambitious apartment wrestler. Together, they shocked apartment wrestling. Here is the sordid tale of drugs and torment, agony and avarice, terror and defeat

THE ACCOUNTANT PICKED up page after page of figures and put them back in his briefcase. There was nothing more to say, so he got up and left Myles Richard sitting behind his expensive Chippendale desk. Richard was wondering how much money he could get for the desk.

Figures don't lie. Myles Richard, once called an entrepreneurial

emperor by a leading newsweekly, now owed his creditors over \$650,000. He couldn't even raise the money for an airplane ticket to Brazil, a destination his accountant thought might be more conducive to his health than a jail cell.

To make it to Brazil in the style to which Richard wished to remain accustomed, he needed \$60,000. That would enable Myles to leave

the country with a minimum of questions asked and enough left over to start bilking the credulous populace of Brazil.

It didn't take Richard long to figure where he could get the money. Discovering how took even less time. On the last phone call Richard would make from his majestic office, he purchased one capsule containing 500 milligrams

HOW A FIEND TURNED A SAVAGE BEAUTY INTO A HELPLESS VICTIM



Jacqueline, a curvacious brunette who has an impulsive need to dominate, has Magdalena moaning in agony before the match was minutes old. Jacqueline was forced to leave her home in Denver and look for work in Los Angeles as her ferocious wrestling style gained notoriety in the Colorado area.

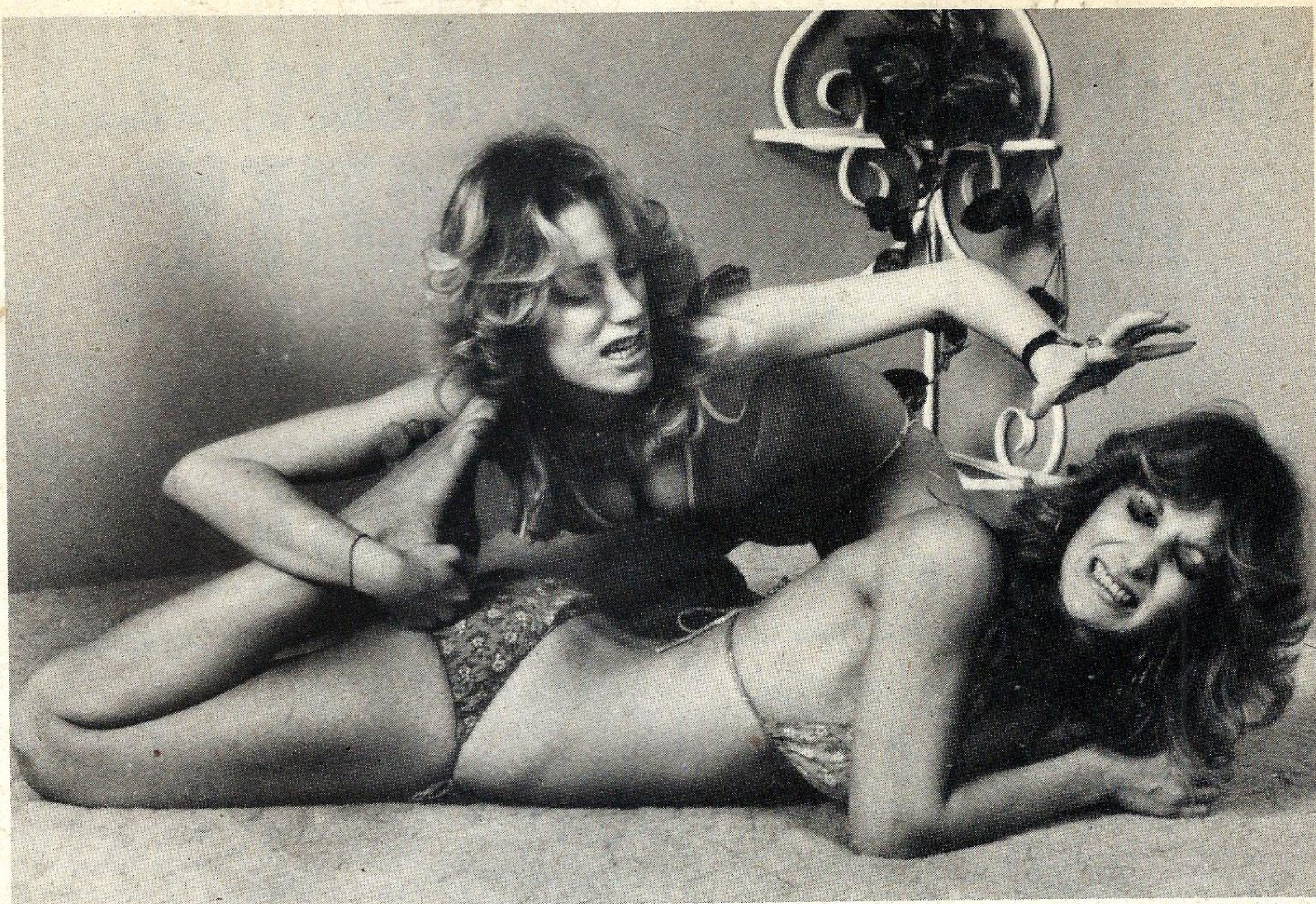
of mexyltetrahydrelene.

Two nights earlier, all was in readiness. The most wealthy men of Los Angeles were gathering to witness an apartment wrestling match. What they didn't realize was the fortune being wagered on the battle's outcome. Richard had contacted them separately and hustled bets of up to \$7500. All told, \$63,000 would change hands before the evening ended. Every penny of it would go to Myles.

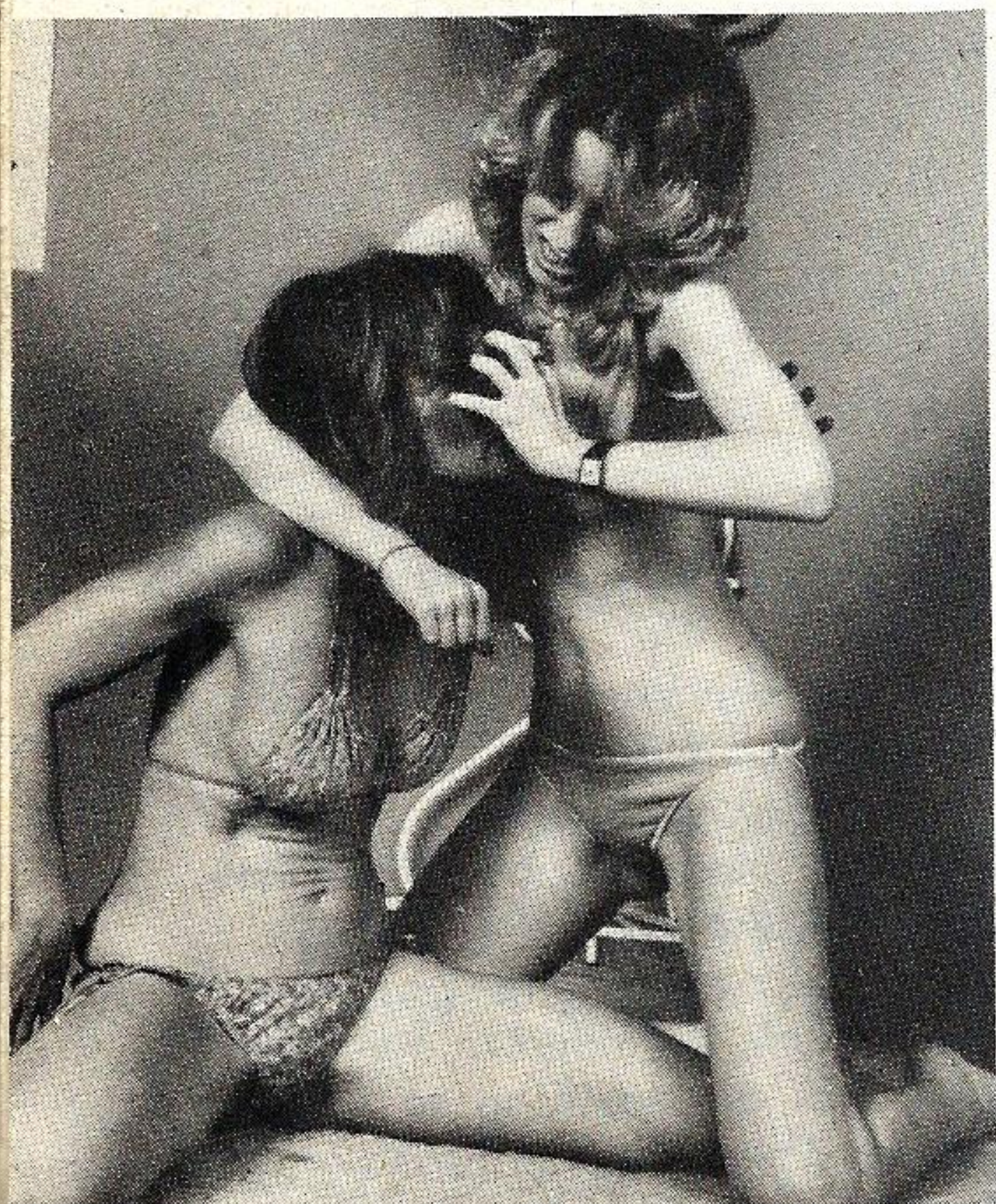
Richard had been able to get up to 4-1 odds on his choice. The favorite, for many reasons, was Jacqueline, a blazed brunette beauty renown for powerful brutality. Her torturous maneuvers made her feared throughout the sport. Originally from Denver, she migrated to Los Angeles because the competition there hadn't yet learned to fear her. The first opponent she battled has since left the sport.

Jacqueline is also famous for her will to win, the need to dominate. She will do anything to gain a victory. The tenderest zones of the female form have been mercilessly mauled by this ruthless vixen. Cries of anguish are common when she tortures an opponent. More than one lush beauty has been made grotesque by agony. There is nothing she wouldn't do to win. She is the amoral wrestler in the sport.

Richard, like any good con-man, knew his quarry. There was never any doubt she would participate in



Above: Magdalena, about to grab a handful of hair, has Jacqueline writhing in agony. Left: Jacqueline's right breast bares several claw marks.



her own destruction. The following dialogue is a reconstruction of what was said when Jacqueline recounted the event [the reader should be warned there is no evidence, beside the woman's testimony, that she wasn't a willing accomplice in the scheme]:

Richard: I have something that will assure you victory.

Jacqueline: My body assures me victory.

Richard: Let's not be silly or pretend to scruples. We're both winners, willing to do anything to stay that way. Have you ever used any drugs?

Jacqueline: Not when I wrestle.

Richard: No time like the present to start. This is the same drug used by professional athletes to make them perform better. It's guaranteed to make you wrestle better than ever before.

Jacqueline: Why are you doing this for me?

Richard: Let's say I like to see winners win. Be sure you take it 30 minutes before the match. You'll feel slightly weakened but then a burst of energy will occur.

Jacqueline accepted the capsule. Although she assumed a victory over her opponent was a certainty, there wasn't any reason to take unnecessary chances. Most importantly, the thought of being a

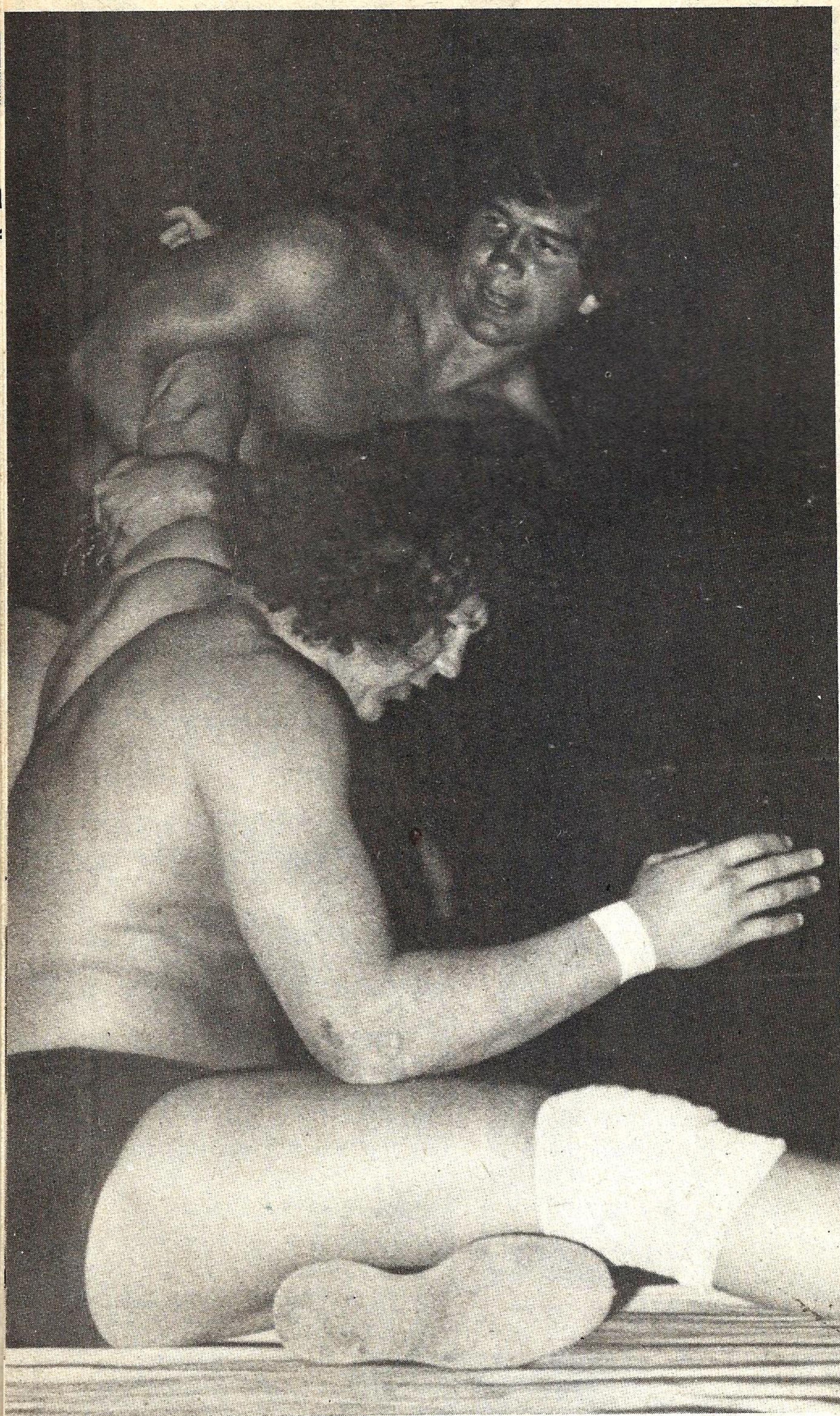
more vicious grappler thrilled Jacqueline. The possibilities flooded her imagination. Visions of conquest delighted her.

Of course, Jacqueline's foe knew nothing about this transaction. Magdalena, a lovely blonde from San Bernadino, was wrestling for the fourth time. Jacqueline would be the toughest opponent Magdalena had ever faced. The blonde knew a victory over her more famous opponent could put her in the front ranks of apartment wrestling. A slaughter would make her name known throughout the sport.

While the young ladies were preparing themselves in the bedrooms, and Jacqueline downed her pill, Richard sat confidently in a leather chair. Occasionally, one of the men who bet against him made a joke about how much his weakness for blondes would cost him. Myles just shrugged.

Jacqueline waited for the pill to take effect. Waves of energy had been promised to course through her exquisite body. The tingling should start at any moment. She

(Continued on page 58)



WHY JERRY BRISCO SCARES BOB ORTON JR.

The armlock Brisco has on Bob Orton Jr. will help him defeat his opponent. It seems Bob always has a difficult time when he wrestles Jerry.

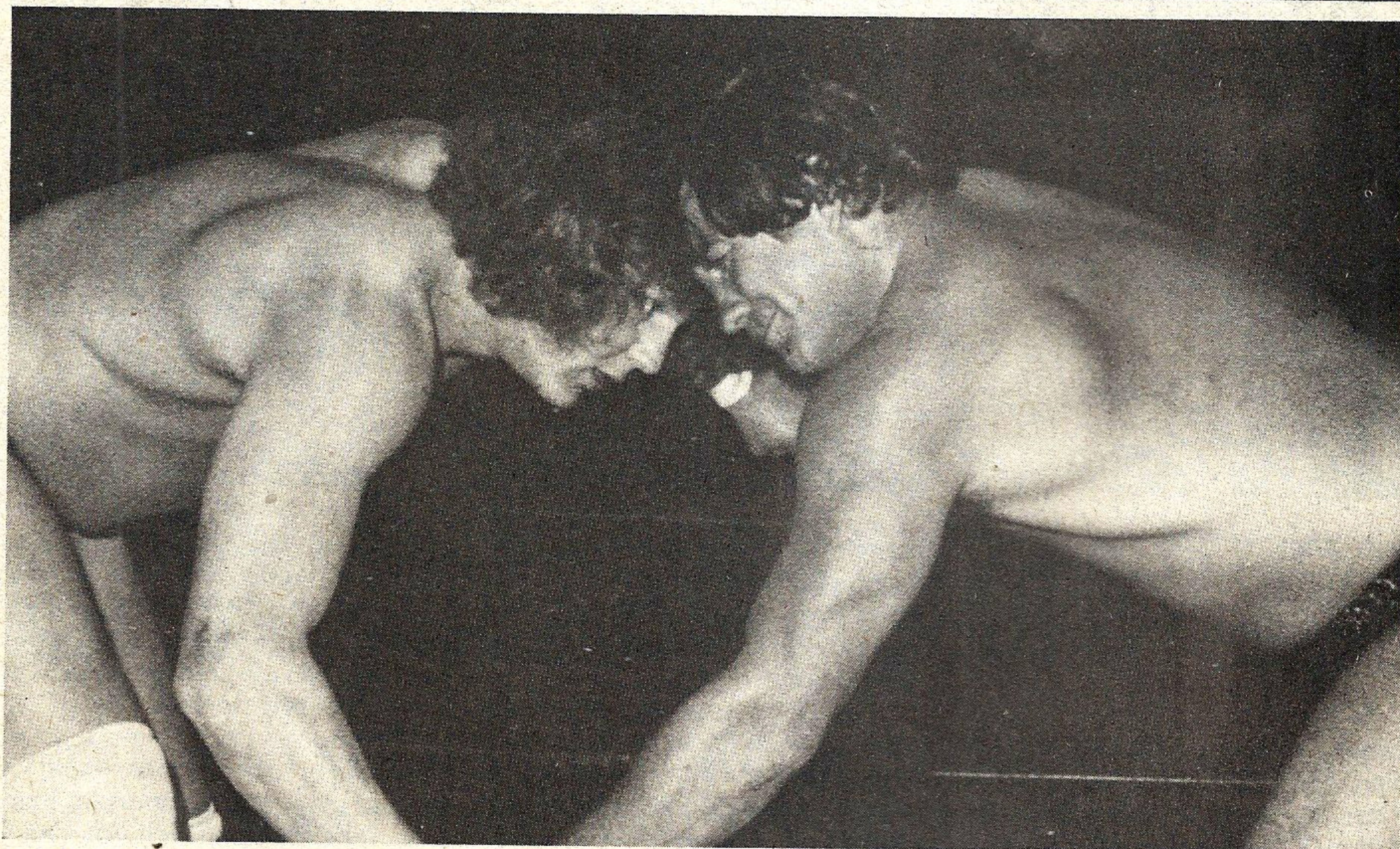
THE MOST SADISTIC torturers in the world couldn't get Bob Orton Jr. to admit his fear of Jerry Brisco. Yet, it's common knowledge among Orton's friends and enemies.

"It comes from the first time they wrestled," Bob's friend, who requests anonymity so he can remain Orton's friend, remembers. "Jerry had a few years experience on Bob. Their match was the first real tough battle Orton had. Now, when veterans come up against a raw rookie, they often give them a few breaks. Not anything that could change the outcome of the match—no one is that generous—but just enough so the youngster can show what he can do.

"Well, this wasn't Jerry's night to be kind. It seems Bob's father had put Jerry through the ring when he first came up and now Brisco had a chance to return the favor. Oh, Brisco didn't miss a trick! No rookie could have stood a chance against Jerry on this night. I wouldn't be surprised if Brisco could have taken a title he wanted wrestling

Everyone has a fear they can't really explain but are almost powerless to conquer. Most of us simply avoid the situation. Bob Orton Jr. must conquer his fear or watch all his dreams turn to dust!

JERRY BRISCO TAKES THE HELL OUT OF ORTON JR.



like that. He was good.

"Well, when Bob was able to sort out what happened, he realized he'd been taken all over the place. He had tried everything he knew (in those days, not much) to stop Jerry, but nothing had worked. Have you ever done anything athletic and found nothing working? There is no more frightening feeling. It's happened to me a few times; it's happened to every athlete, and no nightmare can come close to it for sheer terror.

"Since then, whenever he faces Jerry Brisco, Bob is scared stiff.

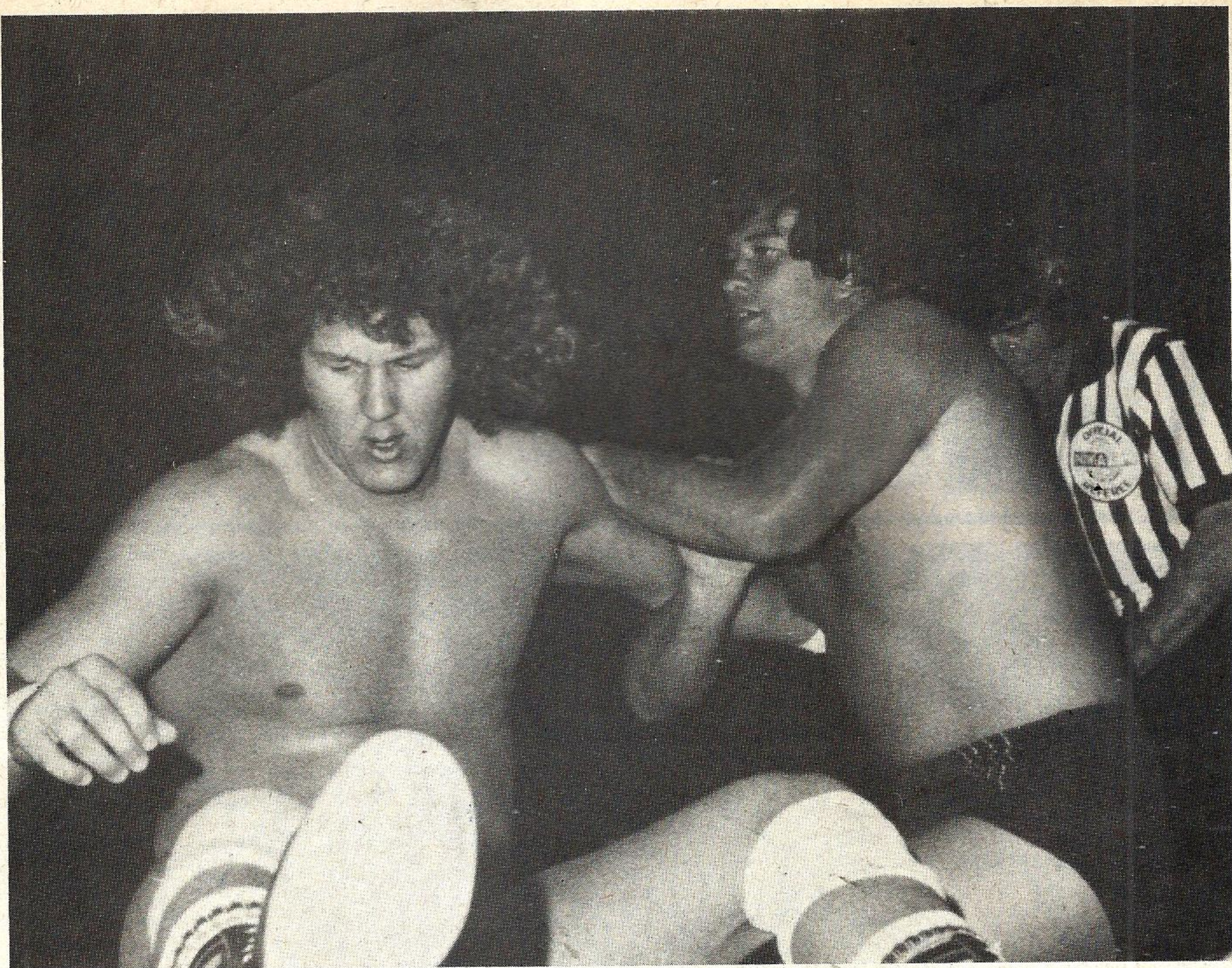
That's why I admire the guy so much. It's no big accomplishment to get into a ring with a guy you know you can beat. But to walk through those ropes to meet a guy who ties your stomach in knots, that's courage. I don't know how many times Bob has faced Jerry since that night, but he's been terrified each time. But I'm proud to call Bob my friend because he never once backed down from a match with Brisco. That's a man."

Other wrestlers say it's obvious to see Orton is scared of Brisco. The proof is evident in every match. Bob's movements are constricted

Bob and Jerry engage in a brutal test of strength, from which Jerry will emerge as the winner. Why can't Bob overcome Jerry Brisco?

and his usual reckless brawling is contained by caution. And Bob wrestles uglier when he's matched against Brisco. The rulebreaking tactics are more savage, more geared to injure. No one would blame Brisco if he was afraid of Orton.

Can Orton ever overcome his fear of Brisco? Most people believe it will haunt Bob for as long as he wrestles. There are some fears



Jerry Brisco executes a perfect figure four armbar on Bob Orton Jr. Within a few moment's time, Jerry would go on to win the match, thus disgracing the young man yet another time.

which eat into a man's brain and can never be conquered. You just have to learn to live with them. Orton is learning to live with it.

Watching Orton train for a Brisco match is like observing a man preparing to go to war. He can afford to make no mistake. His life is on the line. For Orton, it is war. Deep in his brain is lodged the fear that Jerry Brisco could humiliate him worse than any other man alive. Orton's pride is much stronger than his will to survive. Humiliation would be a death sentence.

So Orton trains like a demon for these matches, for it's demons that are driving him. As for Brisco, he pretends these battles are like any other match against a top

contender. Everyone knows better. A scared animal is most dangerous when cornered. And when Orton moves into battle against Brisco, he feels cornered.

"I don't do anything differently against Orton because he's scared of me," Brisco claims. "I think that whole business is blown way out of proportion. Everyone is nervous before a match. Orton is just a little more nervous against me. He behaves differently. In wrestling, when someone does something out of the ordinary, people say he's scared. We're quick to put that tag on something because we all hope the other guy is scared. Terror loves company.

"Sure, Orton has been at his most dangerous against me. He thinks it's necessary. I'm flattered. But it isn't because of fear. He thinks I'm a tough competitor and he has to wrestle accordingly.

"Look, after our famous first match, we didn't have to carry

Orton out on a stretcher. He was close to death. He was beaten, convincingly. But everyone gets beaten in the beginning of their careers. You never forget them, but they don't cripple you.

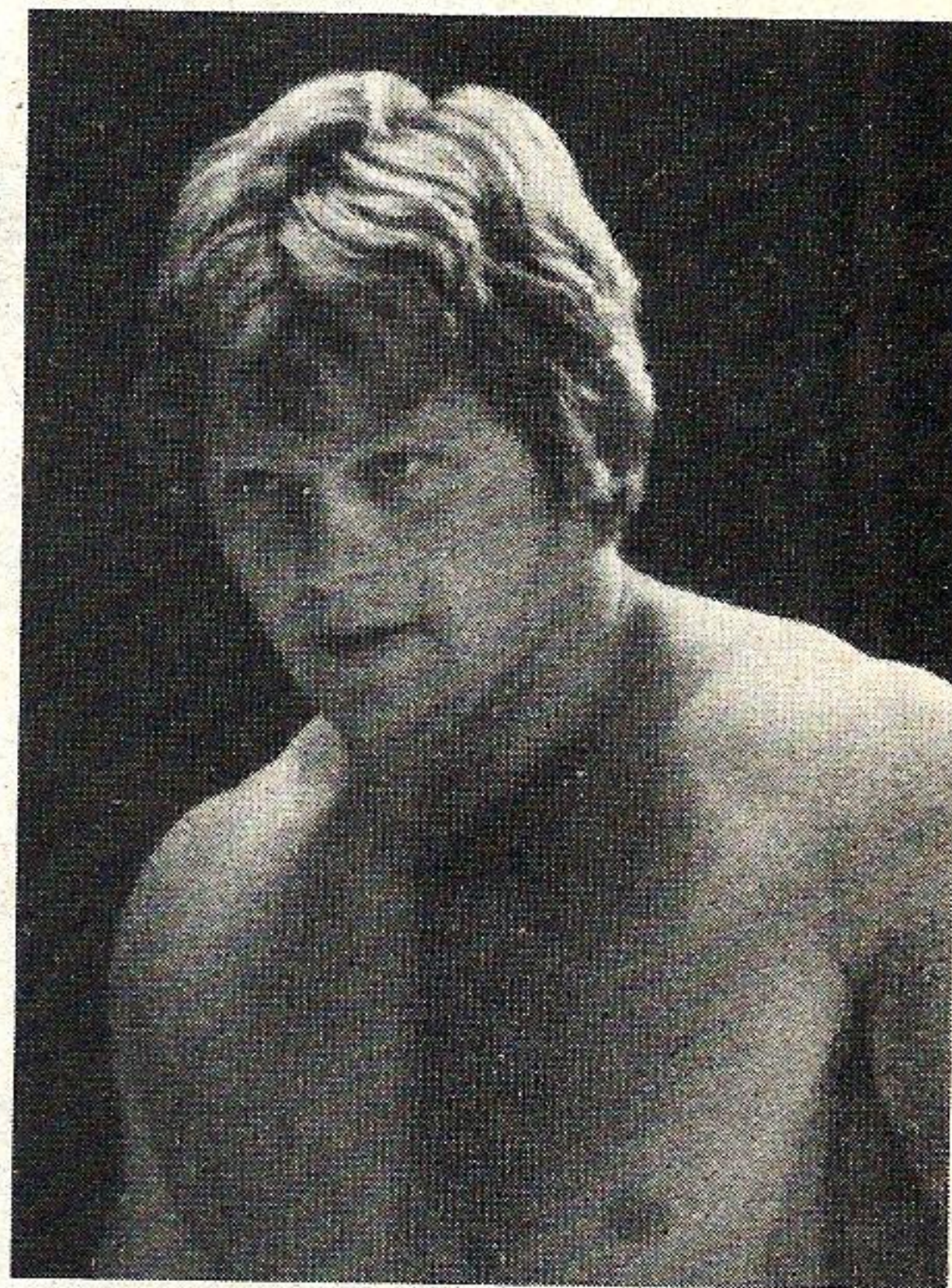
"Orton may be a little scared of me. But most people make it appear much more important than it is. Take my word for it. After all, I should know, I'm the man in there with him."

"I'm afraid of no man," Bob Orton Jr. exclaims. "I know what people say about me. People are stupid! I can beat Jerry Brisco anywhere, anytime, anyhow, anyway. And what's more, I know it. Brisco doesn't even belong in my league.

"If you look at the films of the first match, I really won it. It was the referee who gave the match to Brisco. There's no reason I should be afraid of Brisco."

It's an accepted fact, however, Orton is terrified of Jerry Brisco. But it only makes Orton meaner. □

THE MEN PLOTTING TO DESTROY BOB BACKLUND



Three managers, Lou Albano, Grand Wizard, and Fred Blassie (left), have been plotting to destroy the career of Bob Backlund (above), even before he starts to wrestle in the WWWF!

It's a secret no longer. The facts cannot be denied. Here are the men responsible for trying to destroy Bob Backlund's career. The fate of these men is now in the hands of the commissioners and the fans!

BOB BACKLUND STARED at all the contracts spread before him on the desk. All had been returned—unsigned. For some reason, no one was willing to wrestle him. Why?

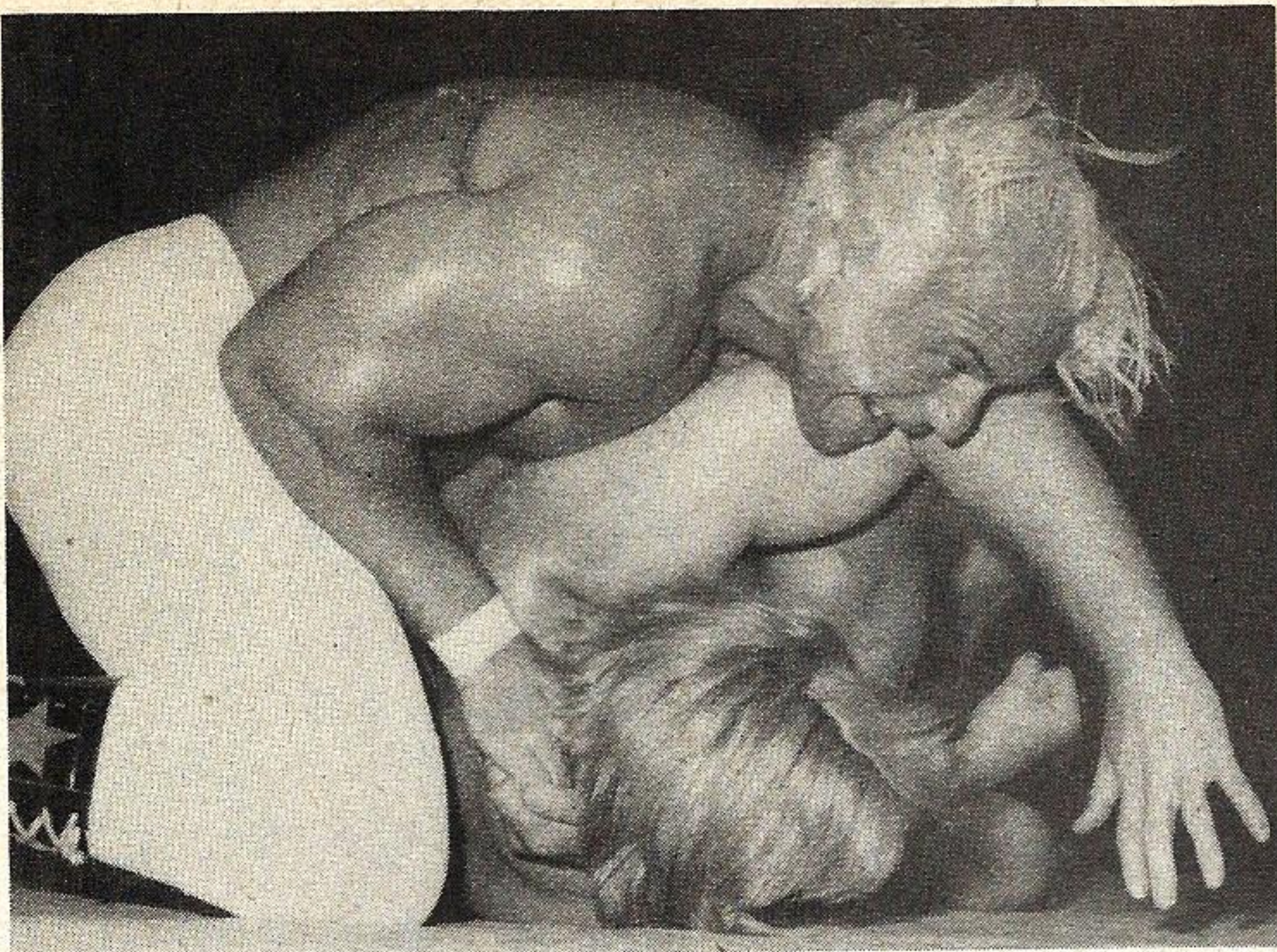
Somehow, nothing seemed right. When Bob had made the decision to come to the WWWF, he expected to wrestle. But that had not happened. Most of the wrestlers in the association seemed to be avoiding him. It was illogical. Usually, most

veterans are more than willing to teach a youngster a few lessons, whether they are scientific grapplers or rulebreakers. Their motives may be different, but they still want to wrestle the new boy on the block.

But this situation was different. No one wanted to wrestle Bob. It made little sense at first glance. Yet scratching the surface revealed a conspiracy so ugly it almost defies description. It looks as if there is a

plot to destroy the young man's career before it even has a chance to flourish.

Ever since his professional debut, Bob Backlund has been making headlines. Many people consider him the finest prospect to enter the sport in many years. In many ways, they are right. What other rookie ever won an important regional championship? Backlund, less than six months after his first professional match, had captured



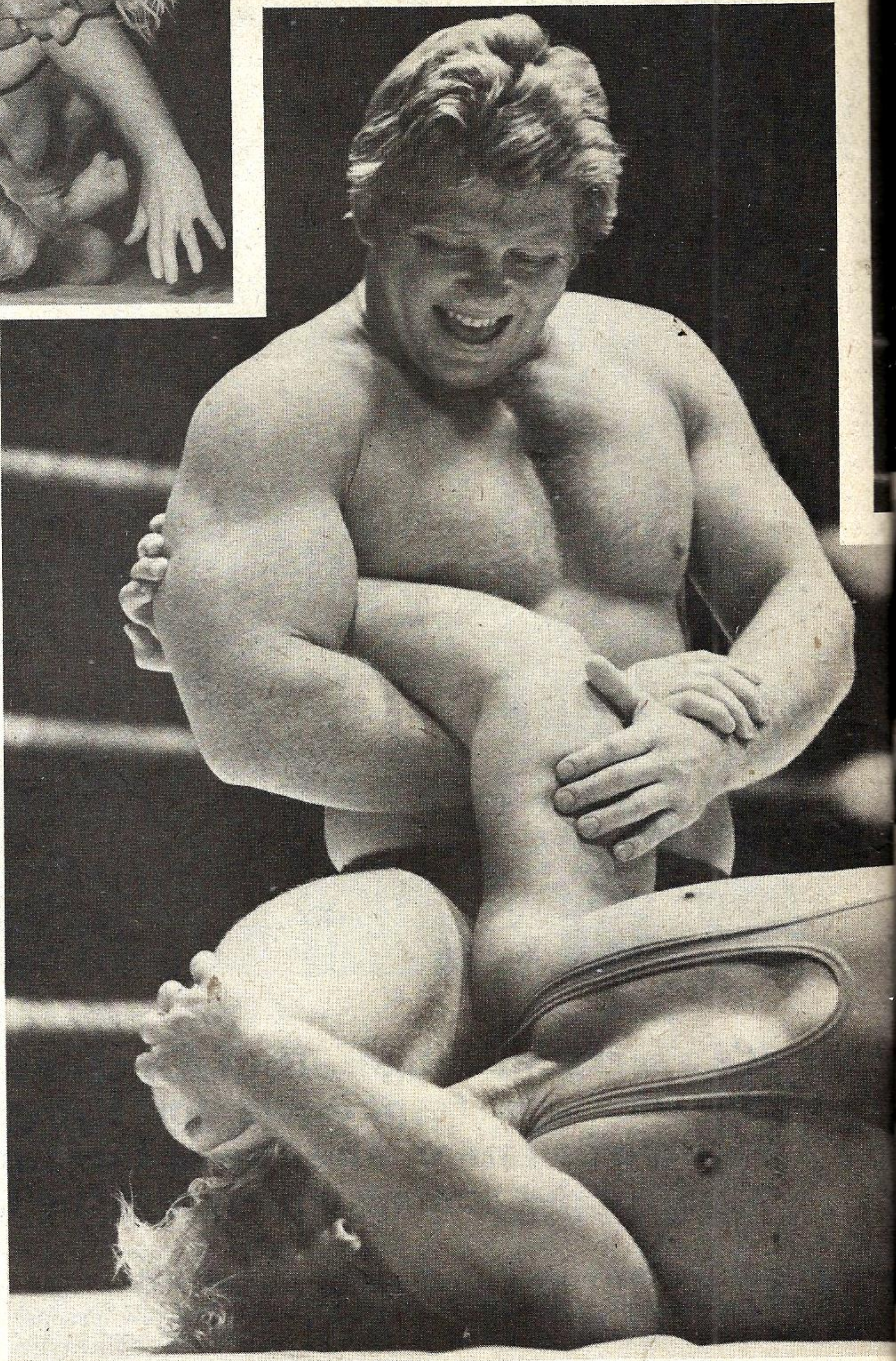
How many men are really involved in the plot to destroy Bob Backlund's career? Rumors have circulated that Billy Graham (left) has been involved, as well as Baron Von Raschke (right). Backlund's response so far has been to wrestle in other areas than the WWWF (below).

the Missouri State belt, an honor most people consider a stepping stone to a world championship. It was an unprecedented accomplishment, yet Backlund had done it. Secretly, many wrestlers began to admire and fear this fresh new face in the professional ranks.

Most scientific wrestlers were willing to welcome this newcomer into their ranks. Most rulebreakers were curious: Had this rookie developed new techniques which would enable him to defeat any opponent?

The truth is that Bob Backlund is a new breed of wrestler. He is, indeed, the wrestler of the future—intelligent, talented, strong, extremely quick, and streamlined. His compact body packs more power than men who are twice his size. His sleek muscles more than make up for what Bob lacks in bulk. The rulebreakers have begun to realize this. It scares them.

Soon after Bob decided to try the WWWF for awhile, there was a secret meeting held between three notorious managers who control most of the rulebreakers in the WWWF—Captain Lou Albano, Grand Wizard, and Fred Blassie. In this meeting, the managers decided they had to do something to end the career of Bob Backlund before the young man advanced too far and became unstoppable. Their conspiring brought forth a single idea: to refuse to allow their wrestlers to face Bob Backlund. This way, other wrestlers in the association would also refuse to help or wrestle Backlund, because



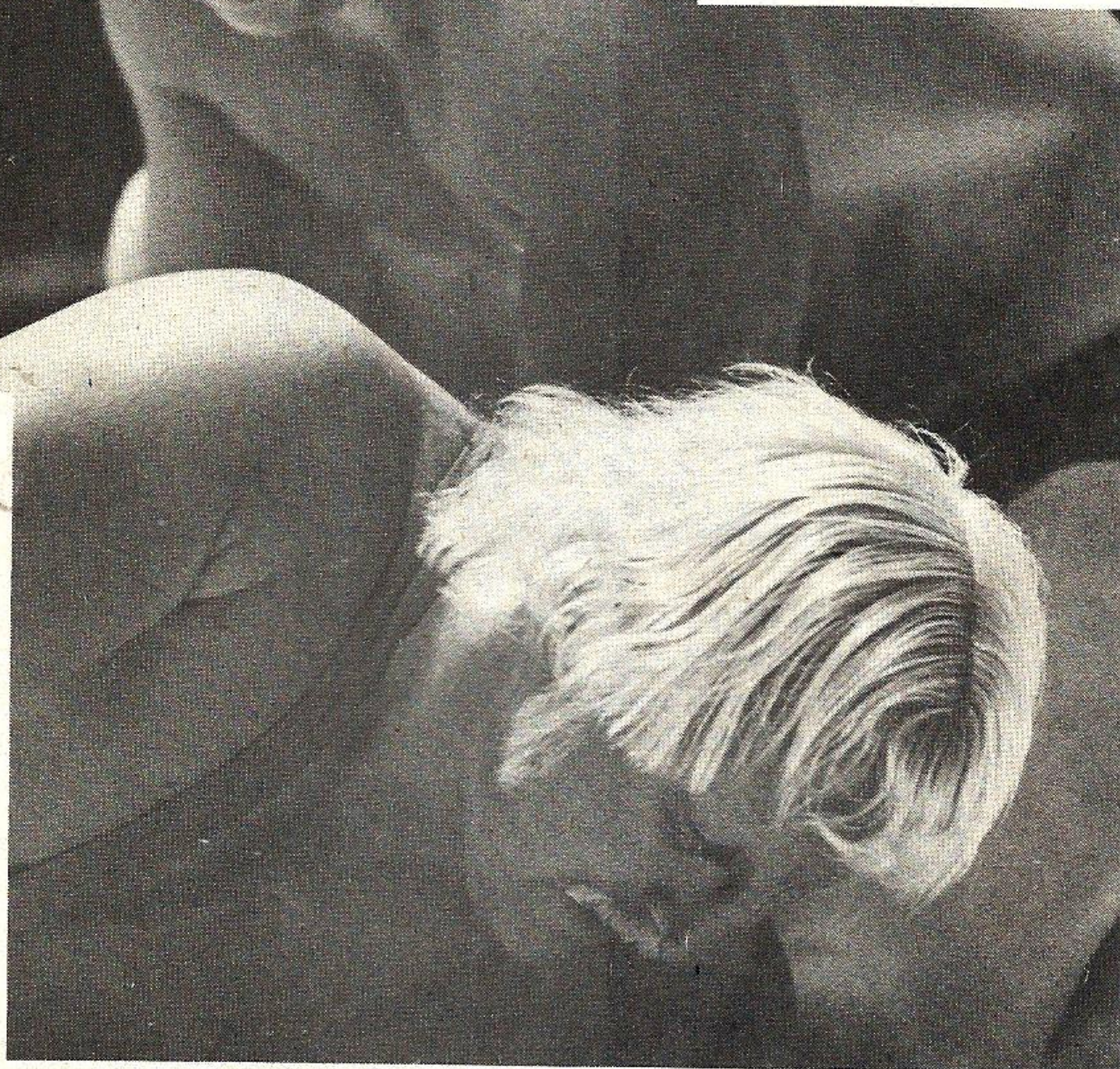
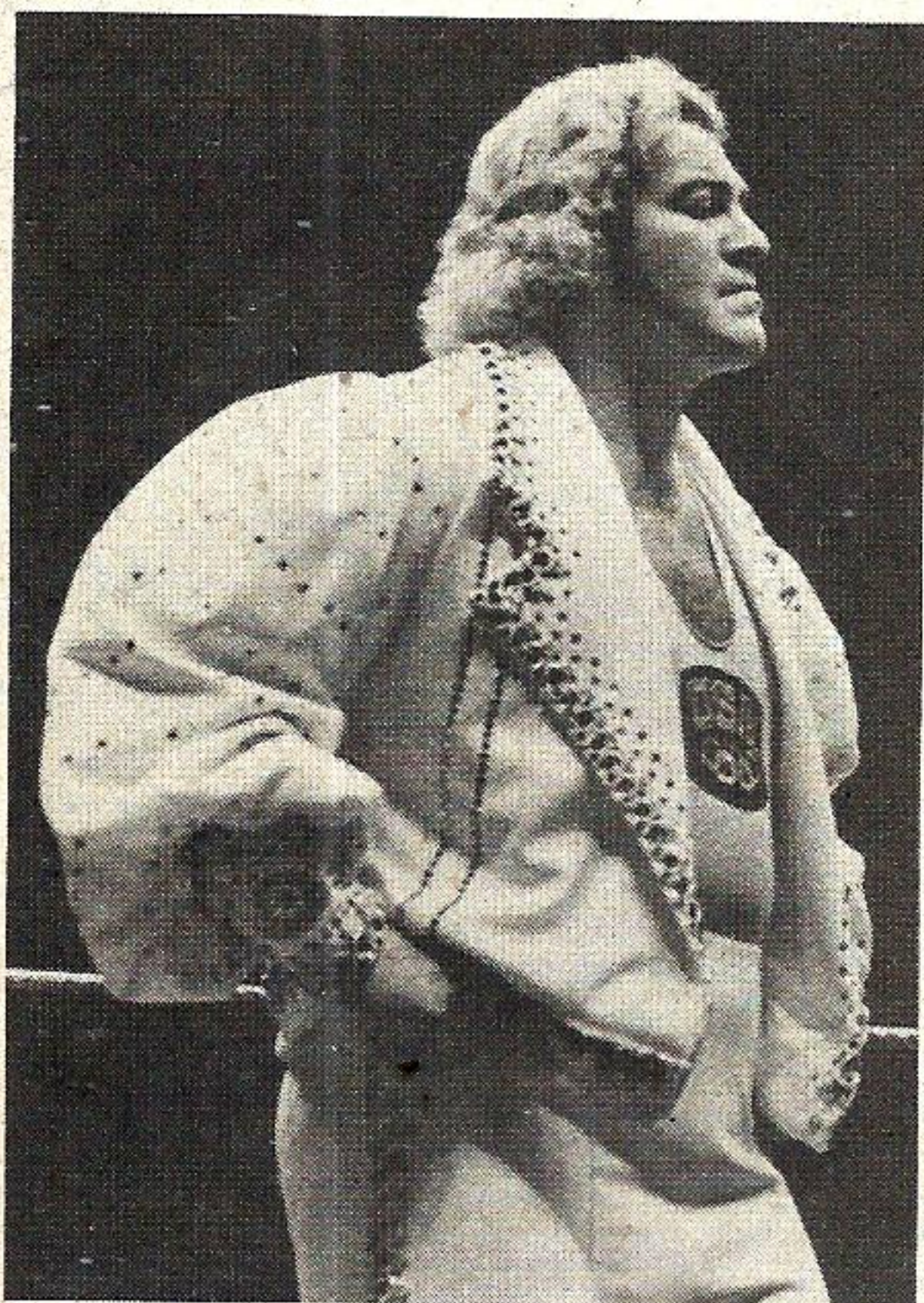
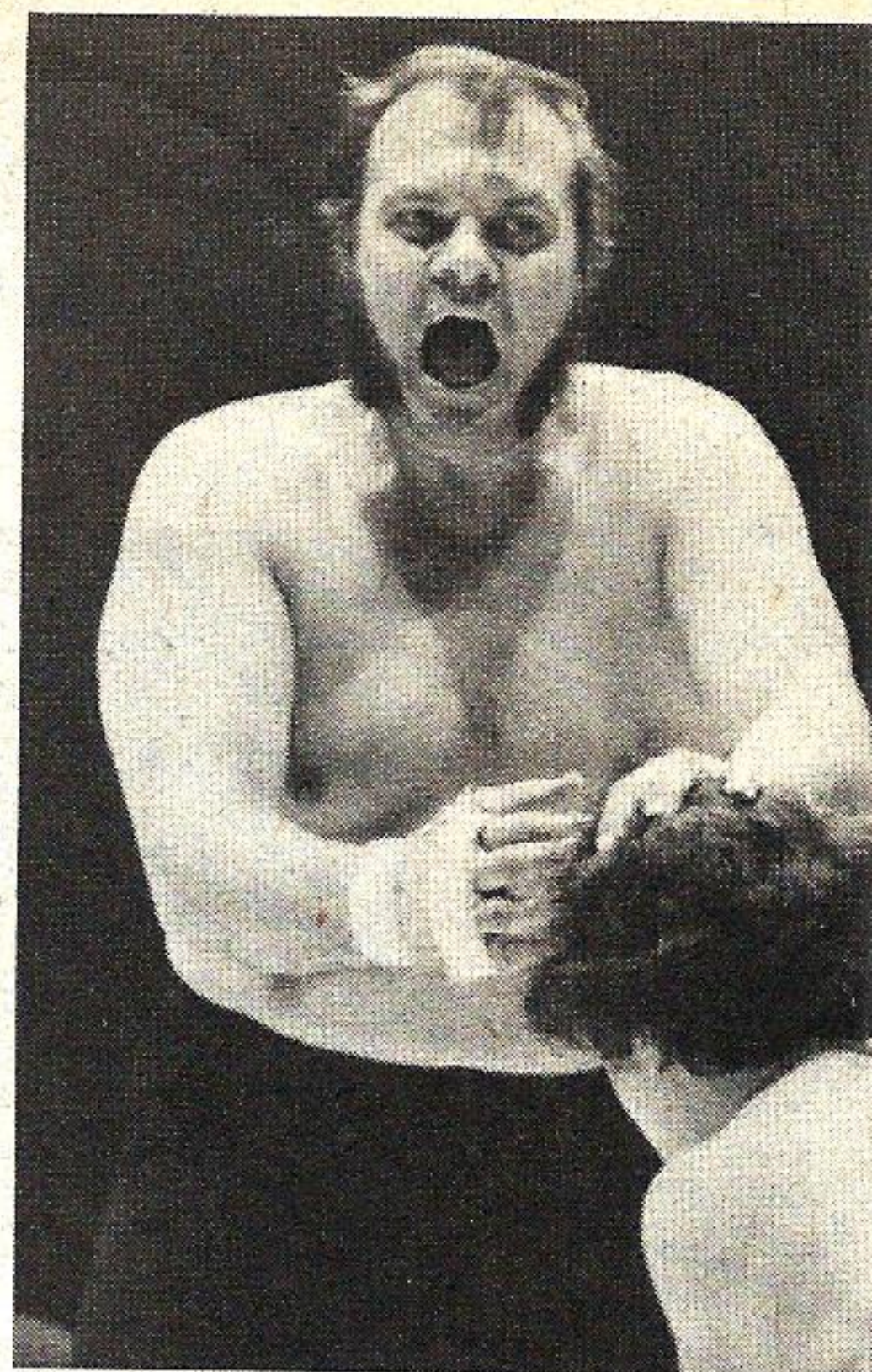
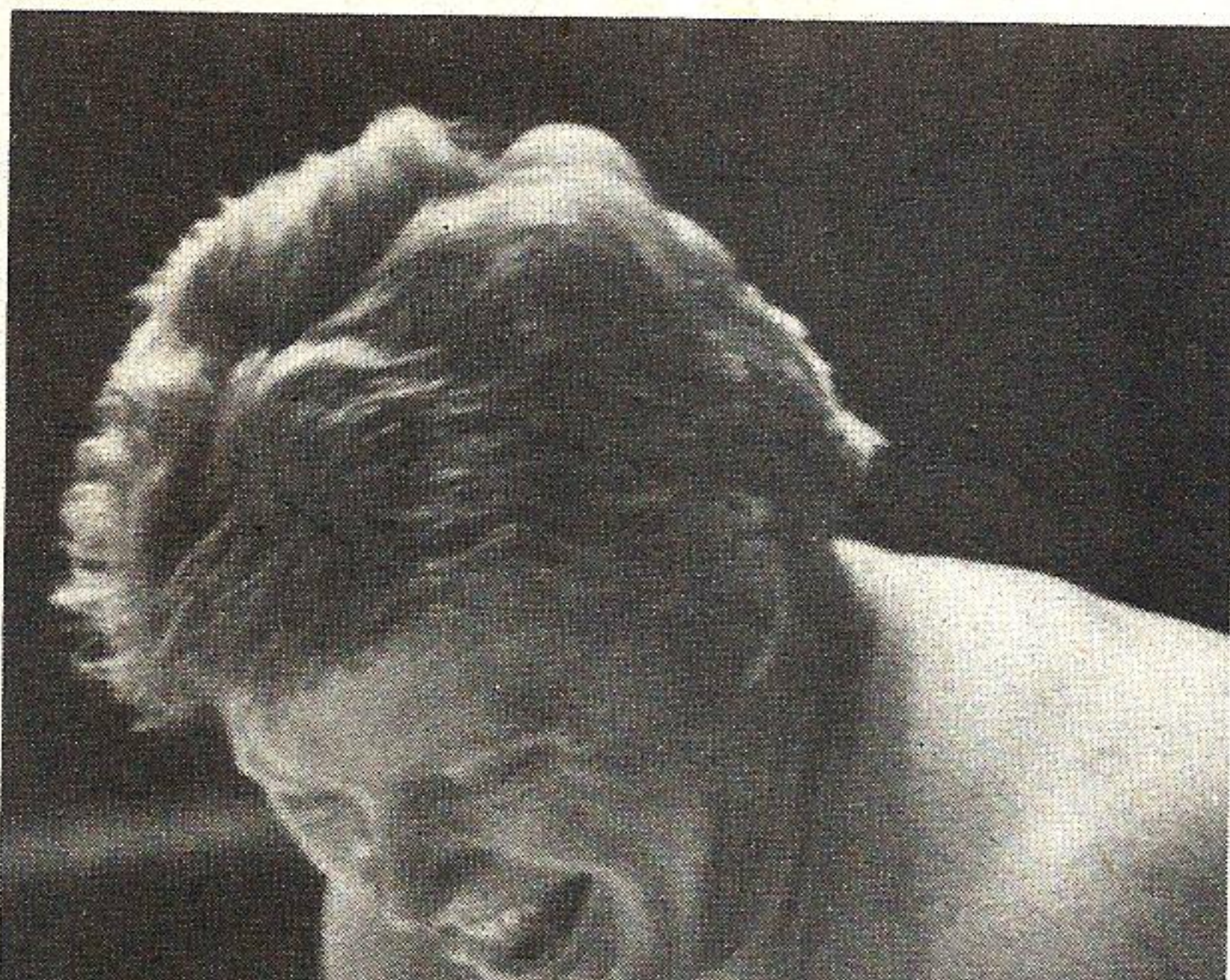
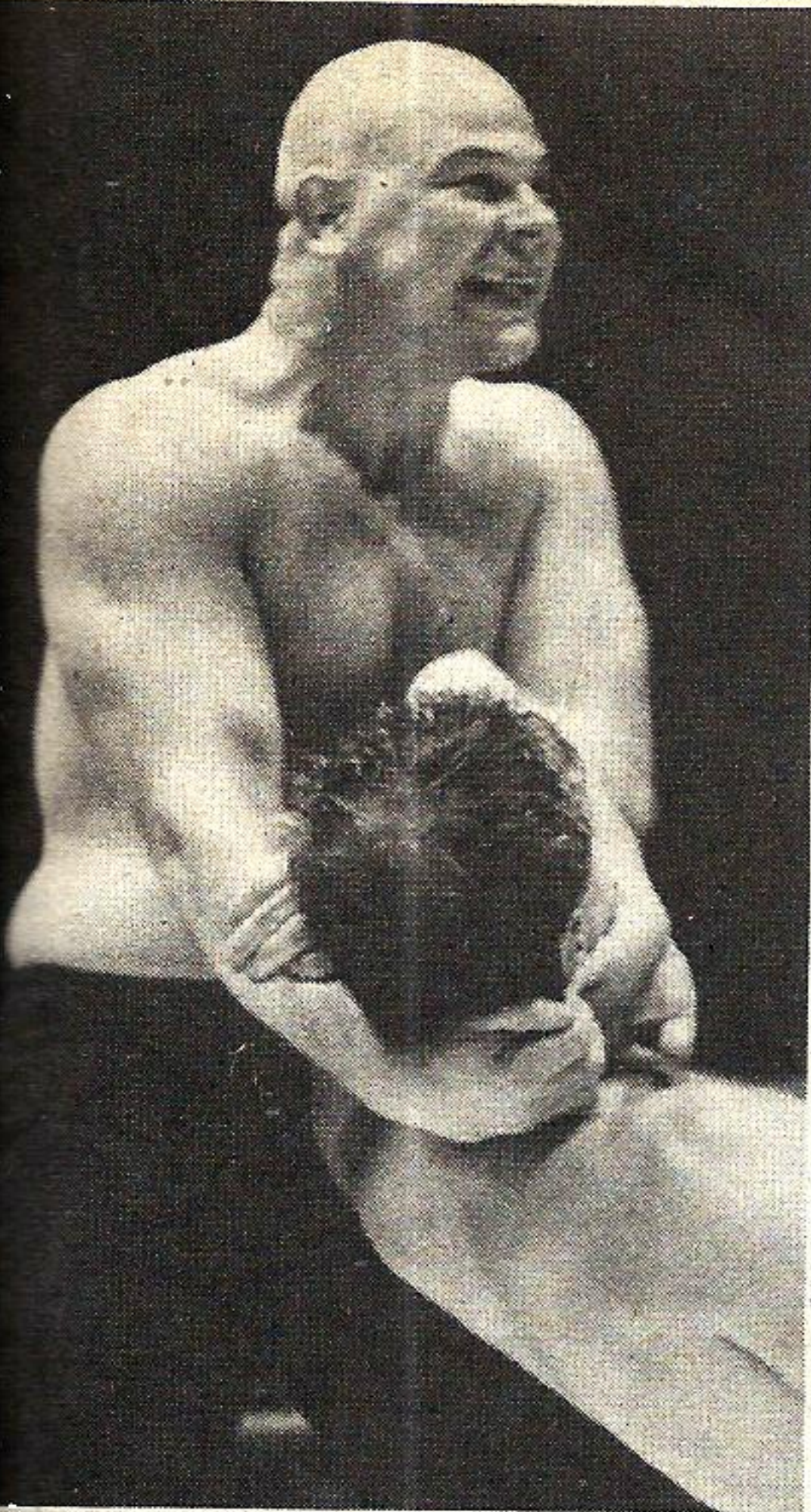
the young man wasn't doing his share in combating rulebreakers. It was a wicked plan. And it was working.

The conspiracy of Albano, Blassie, and Wizard has caused some talk among wrestlers in other associations. Even Jack Brisco, a man who is less-than-fond of Bob

Backlund for personal reasons, is outraged. "How dare they do this to any man," said Brisco. "Bob Backlund is a future champion. He is definitely the best prospect I have ever seen. His abilities are unquestionable.

"To deny Backlund the chance to wrestle is the worst thing I have

So far, many notorious rulebreakers—all controlled by the three managers involved in the conspiracy—have refused to wrestle Backlund (below). Included are men like Ken Patera (bottom left), managed by Lou Albano, and Stan Stasiak (right), Wizard's man.



ever heard of. No one has ever denied those managers' wrestlers the chance to wrestle. Why should they deny Backlund his chance?"

To say the least, Bob Backlund is not too happy over the situation confronting him in the WWWF. The experience has been quite discouraging and the young man is

not sure what he should do next.

"I know things can't stay this way forever," Bob said. "However, until the situation changes, maybe it would be better if I didn't even try to wrestle in the association. I can take a hint. Maybe I'll leave for the time being.

"However, I want it noted that I will be back in the WWWF in a few months. I think a long vacation right now will be quite nice. It will give me a chance to prepare for the time when I return and defeat all those men who are refusing to wrestle me now. Albano, Blassie, and Wizard

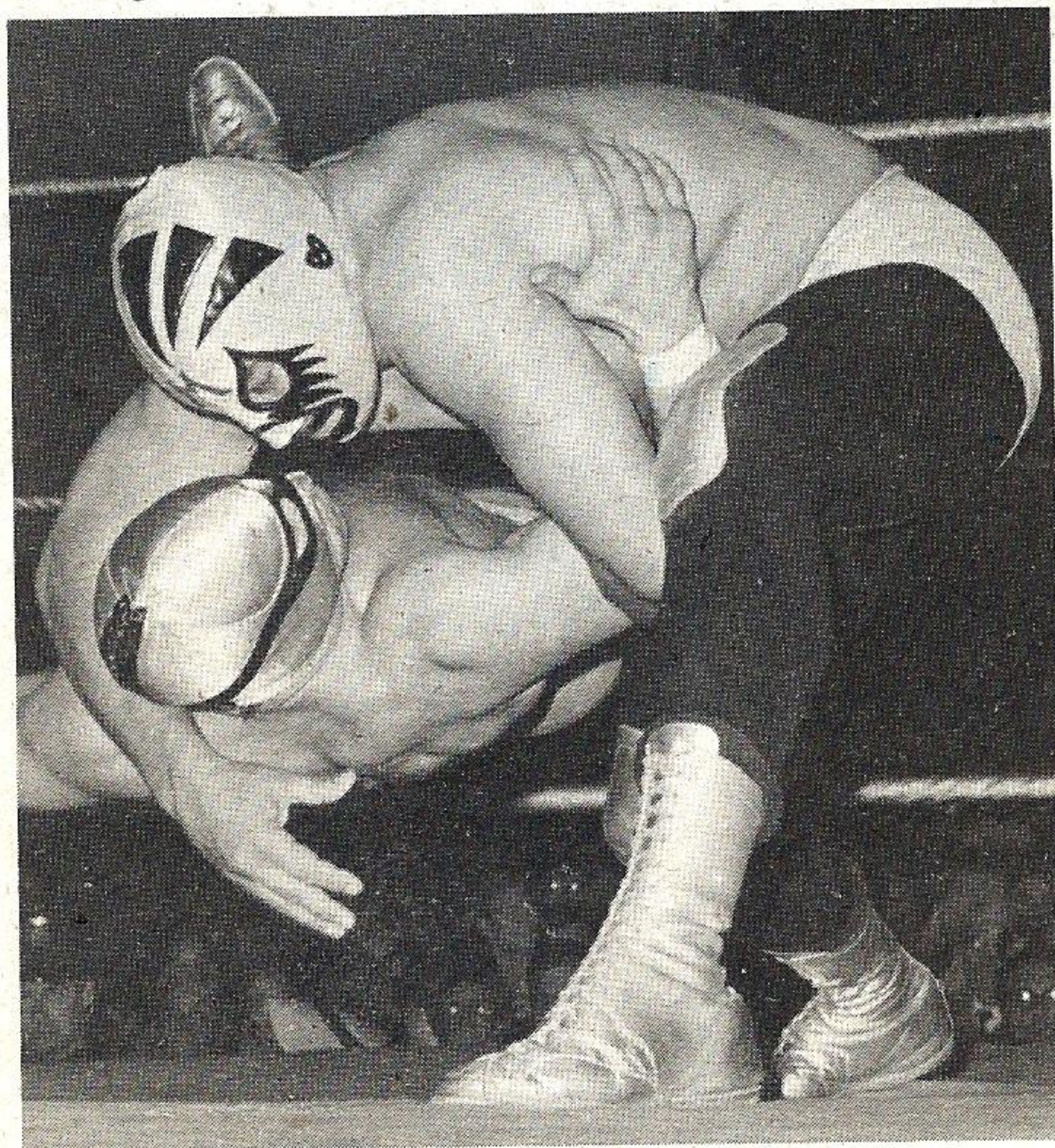
have not heard the last of Bob Backlund. I can guarantee that!"

For now, Backlund is laying low, staying away from most of the action in the WWWF. He will come back to a full schedule when he feels the conditions have changed for the better. He is a wrestler and he wants to wrestle. Denying him that opportunity could destroy his career in the sport—as the three men who conspired wanted. But by doing this, the WWWF could lose the services of the best new wrestler in many years. That would be the greatest loss of all! □

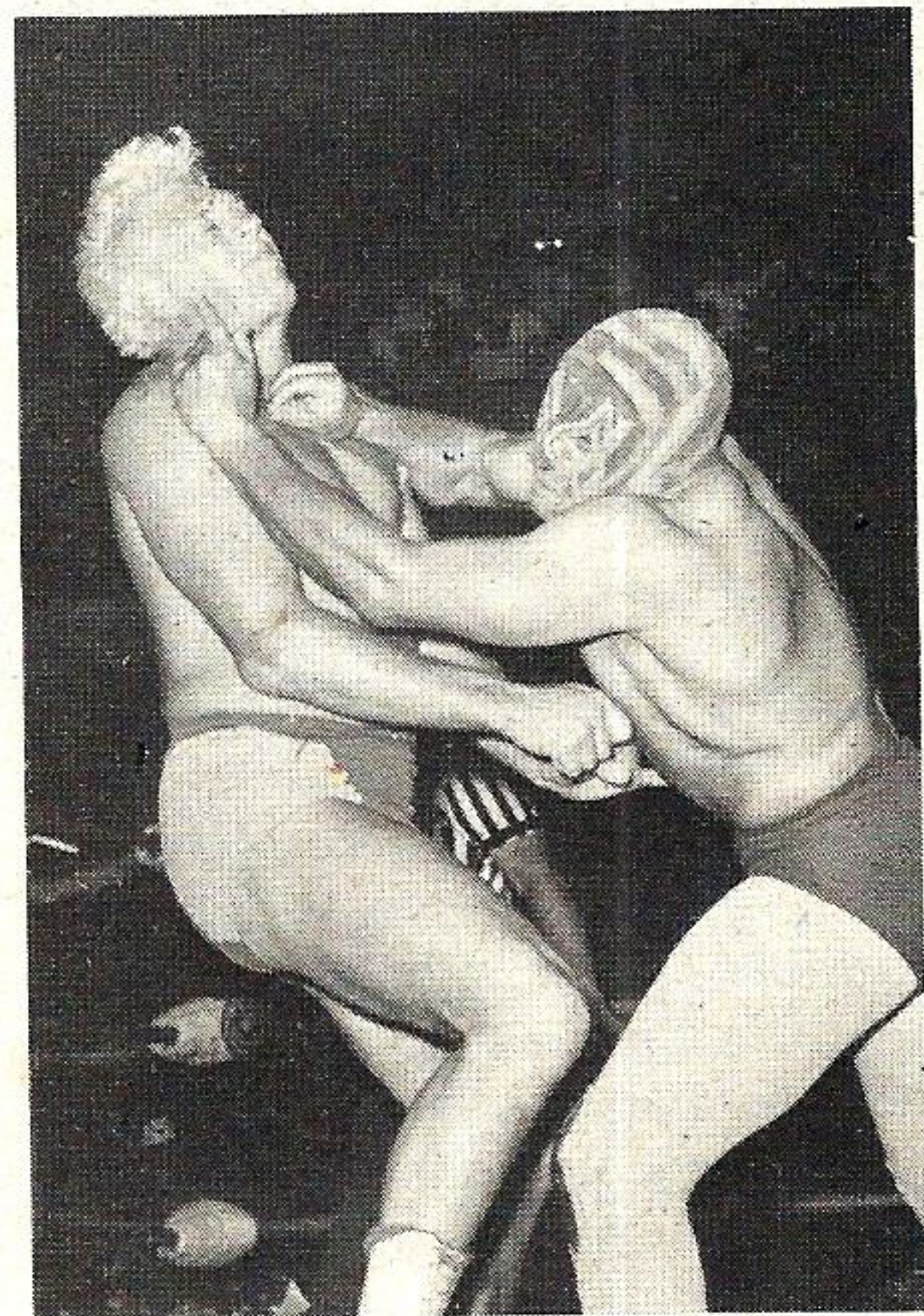
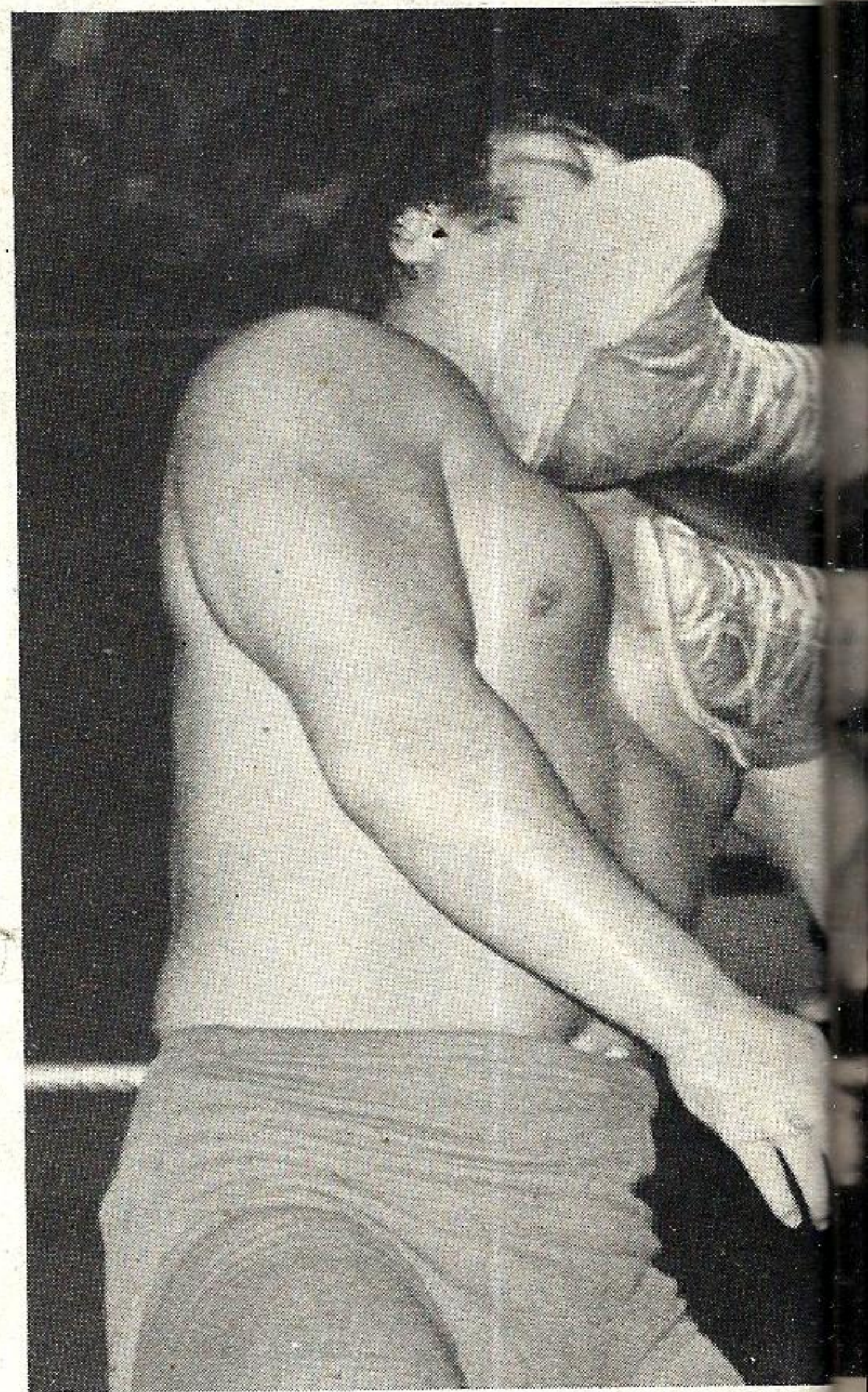
A TREASURY OF MIL MASCARAS' GR



Above: One of the greatest matches in Mil's early years as a professional wrestler was against Billy Graham. Below: Mascaras had a fierce battle against El Solitario. Bottom right: Few fans can forget Mil vs. Don Carson.

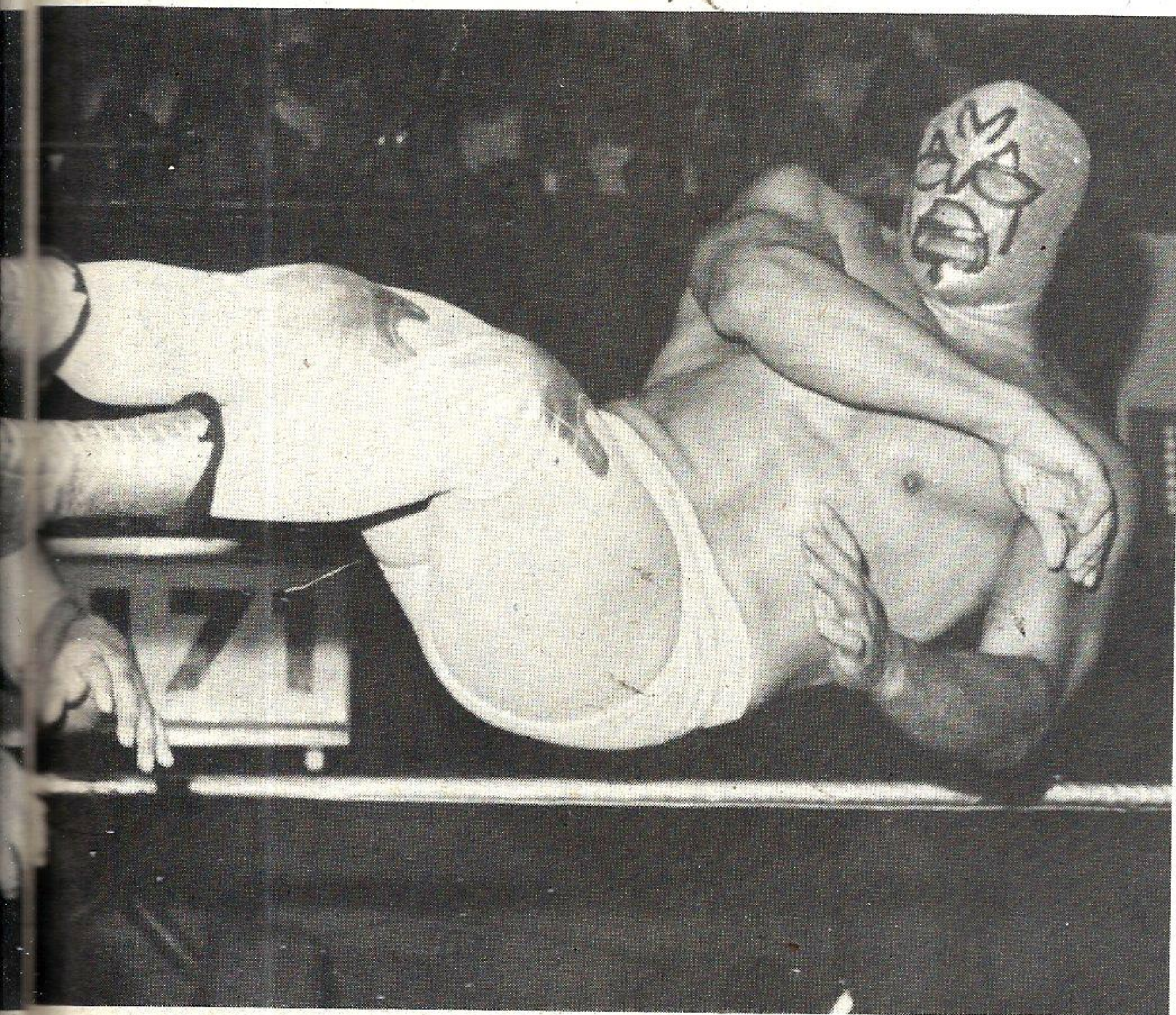


Mil exhibits his famous flying tactics in an exciting match against Saito in Los Angeles (below). Mascaras spent many years as the dominant force in the California wrestling scene.

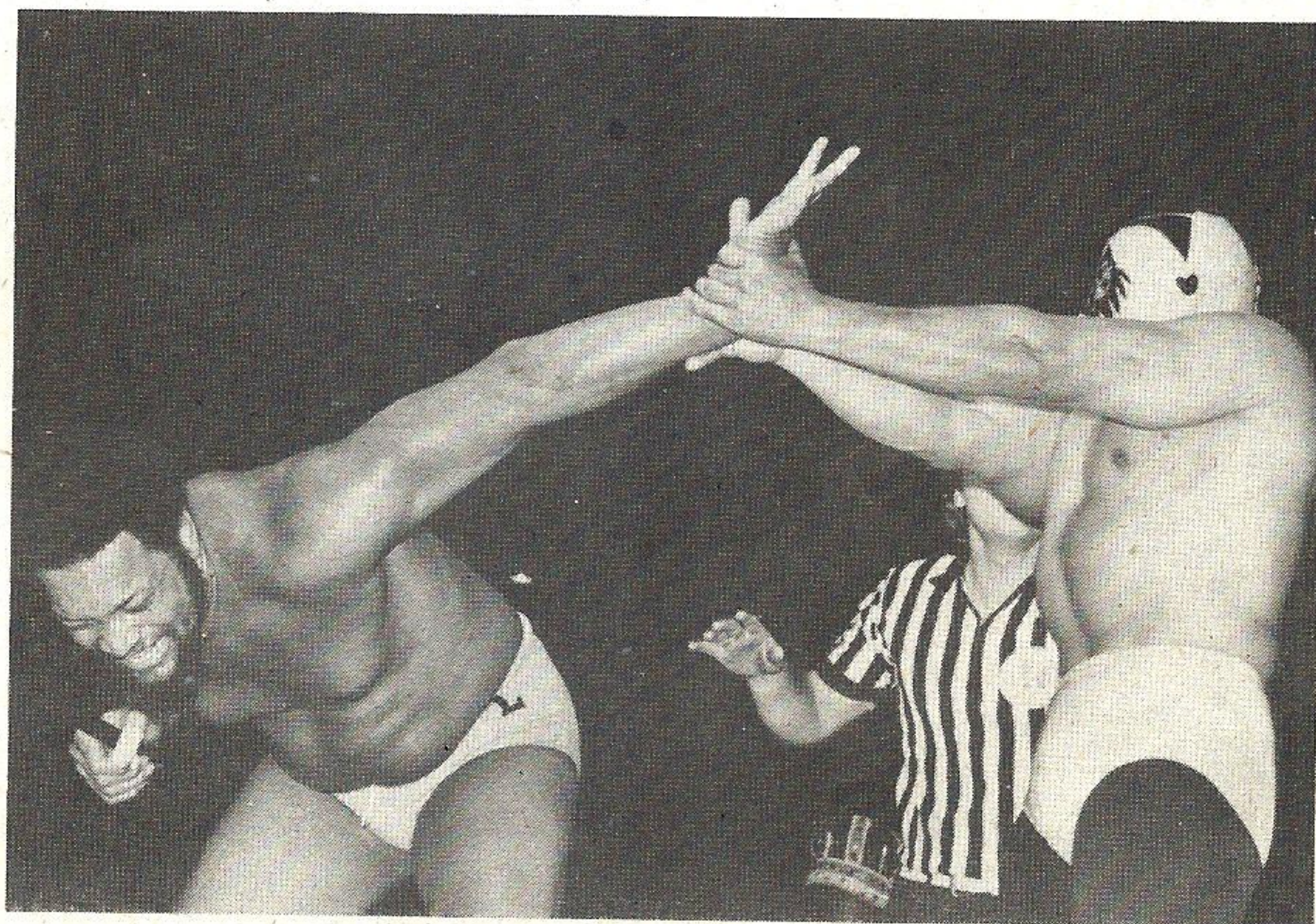
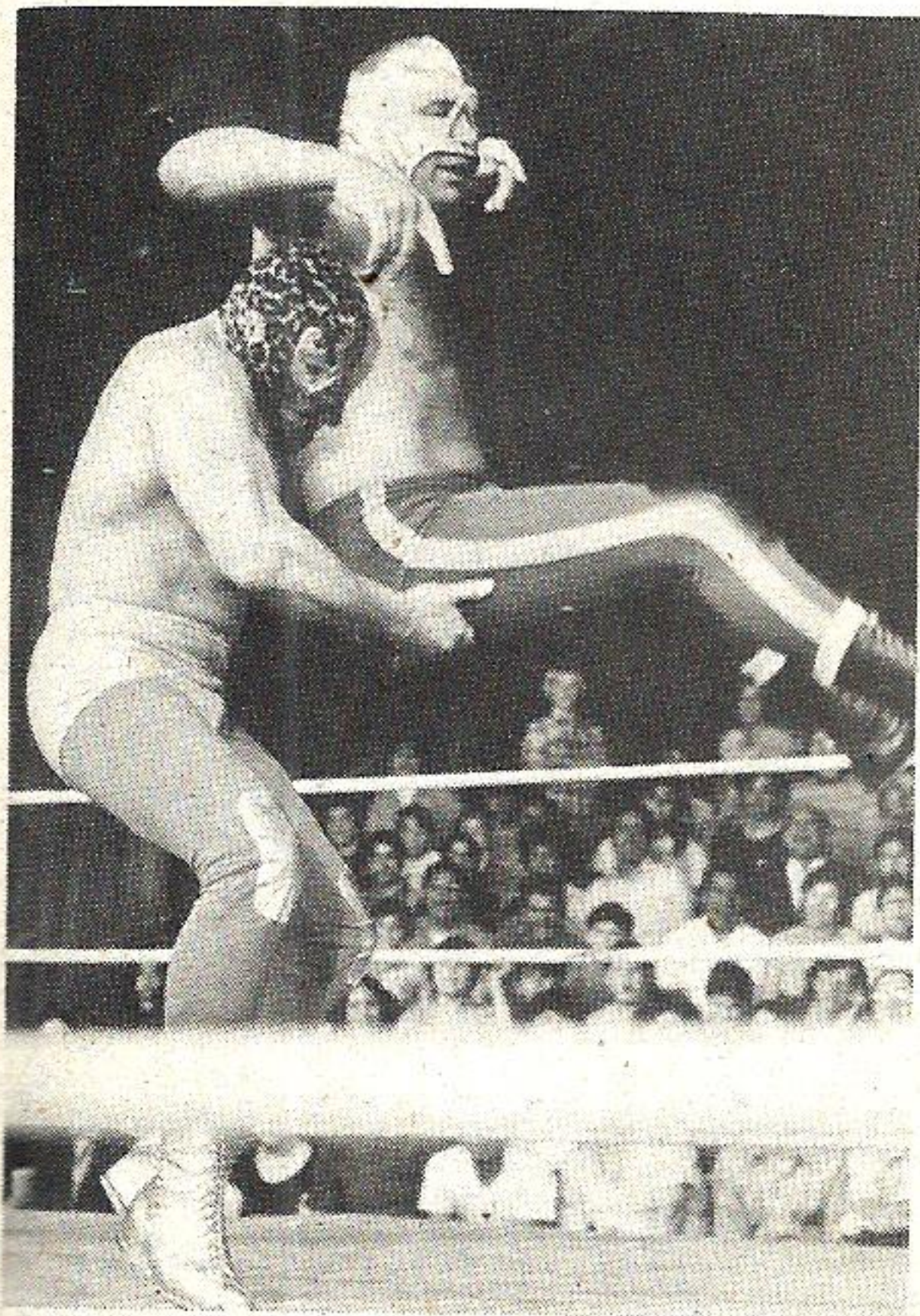


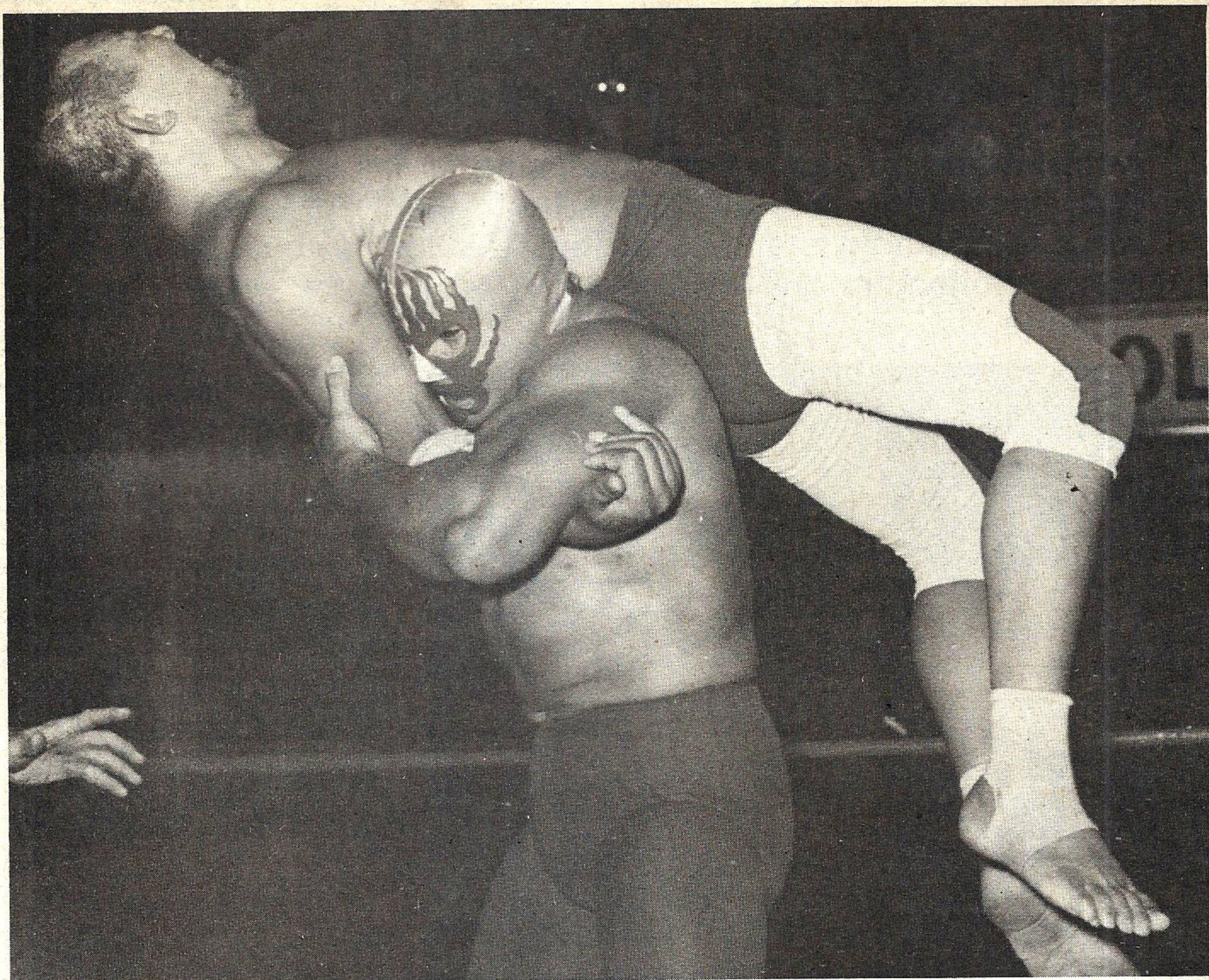
GREATEST MATCHES

After months of picking and choosing, trying to pick the best from the uniformly superb, we have selected Mil Mascaras' most remarkable matches for this treasury of Mil's greatest bouts. Collectors will treasure this feature for many years to come.

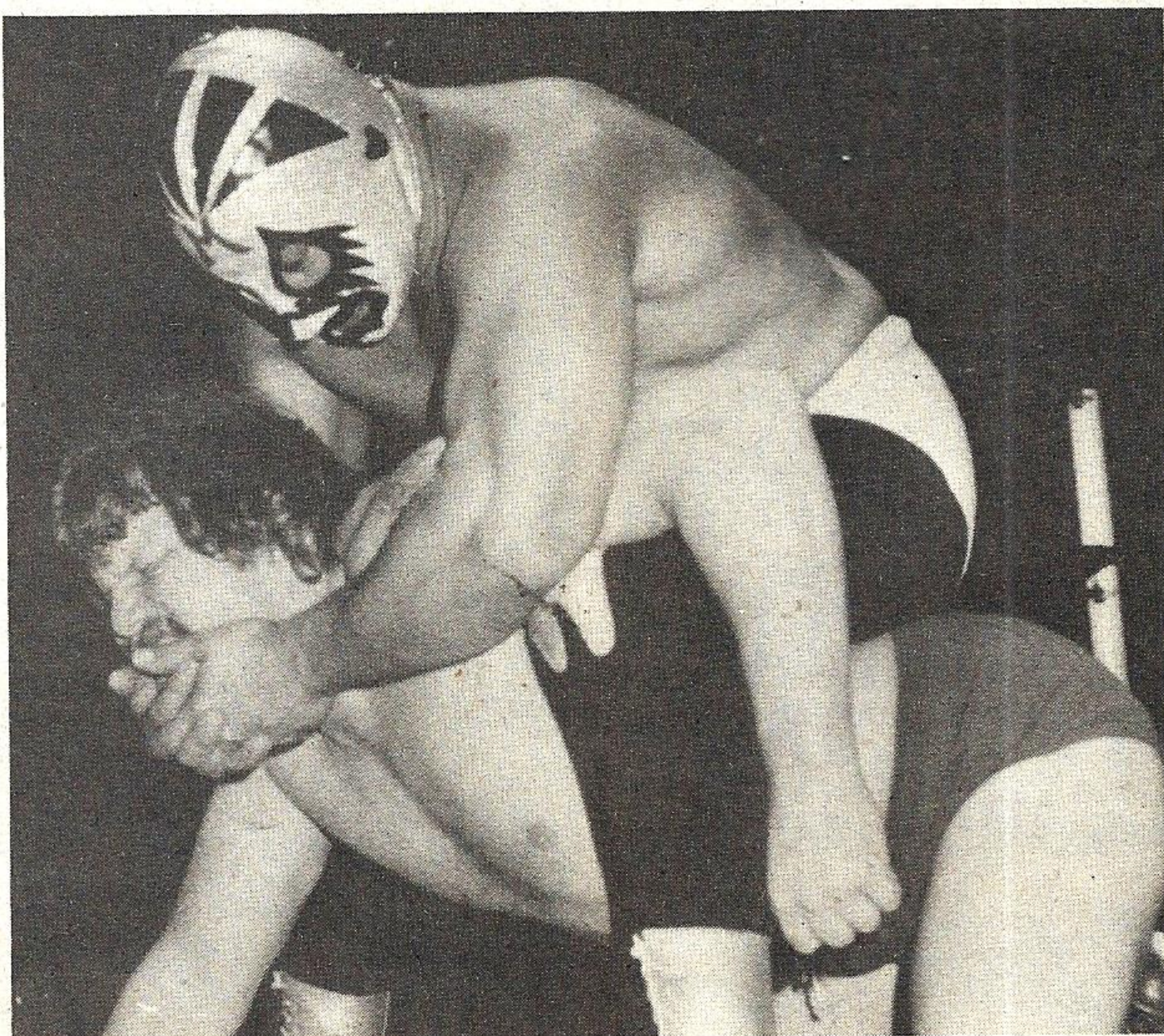
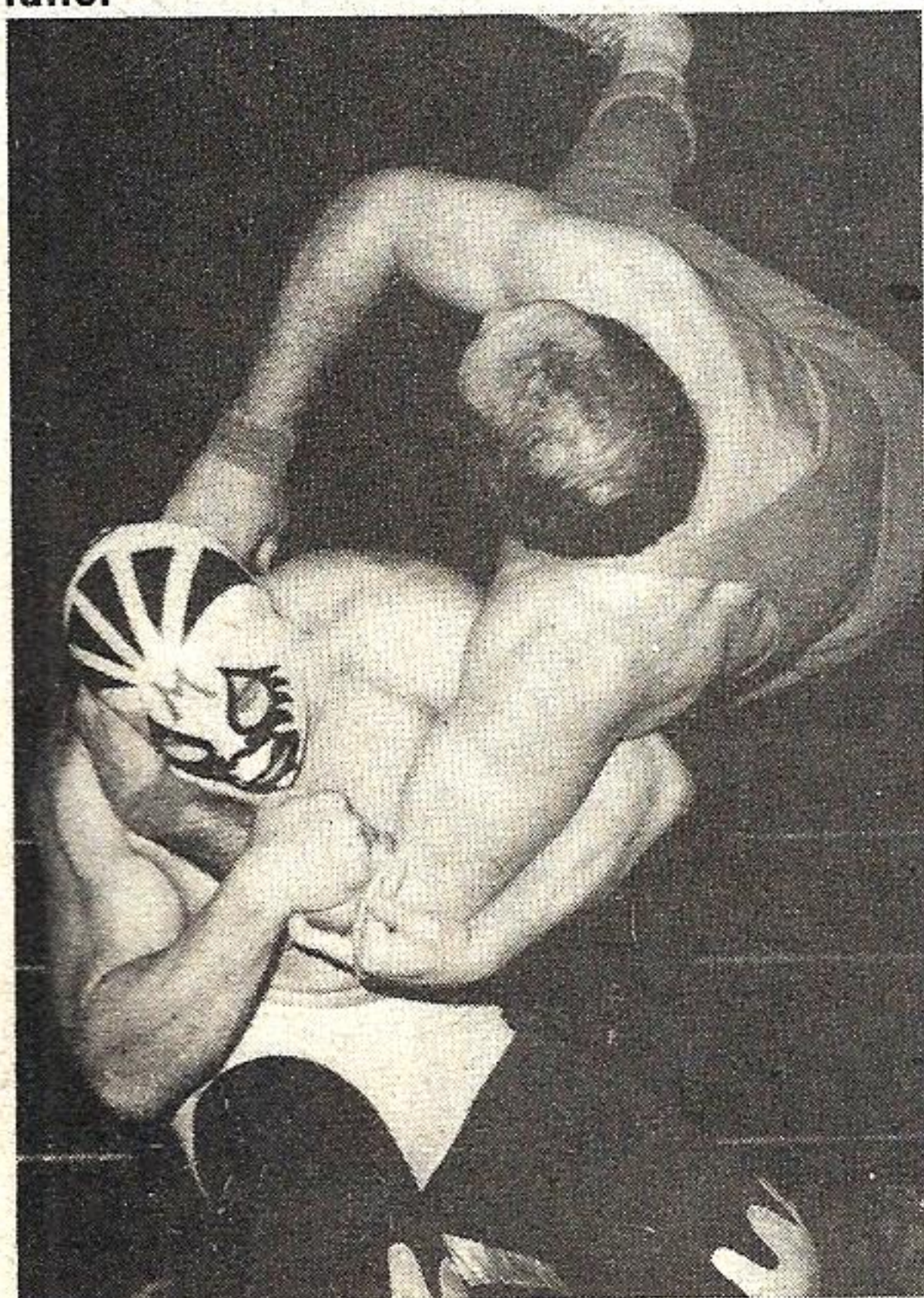


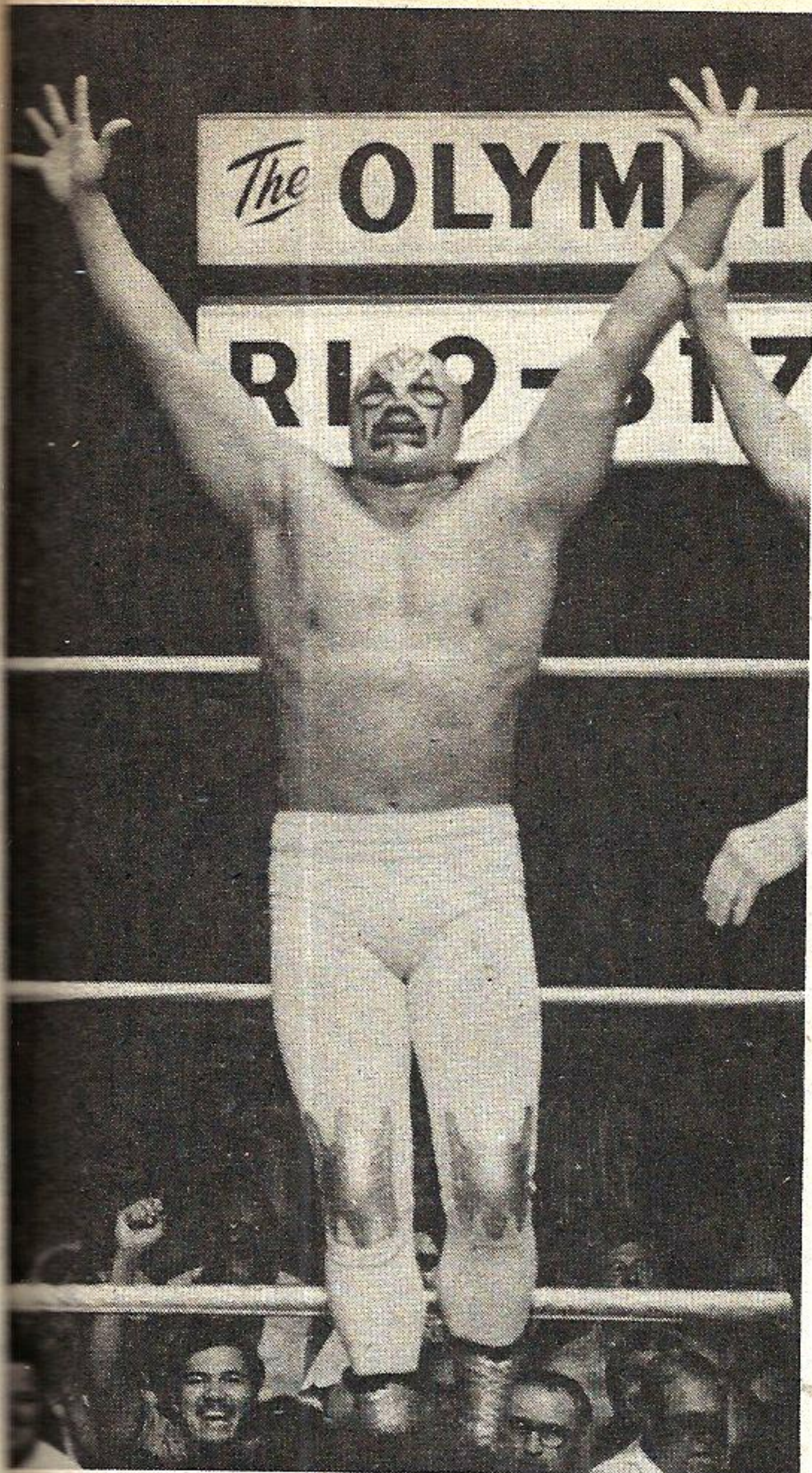
Above: Mascaras has his hand raised in victory after a great triumph over Black Gordman. Below: Ernie Ladd is in serious trouble, and will soon submit to Mil. Bottom left: John Tolos is no match for Mil's power and ability.



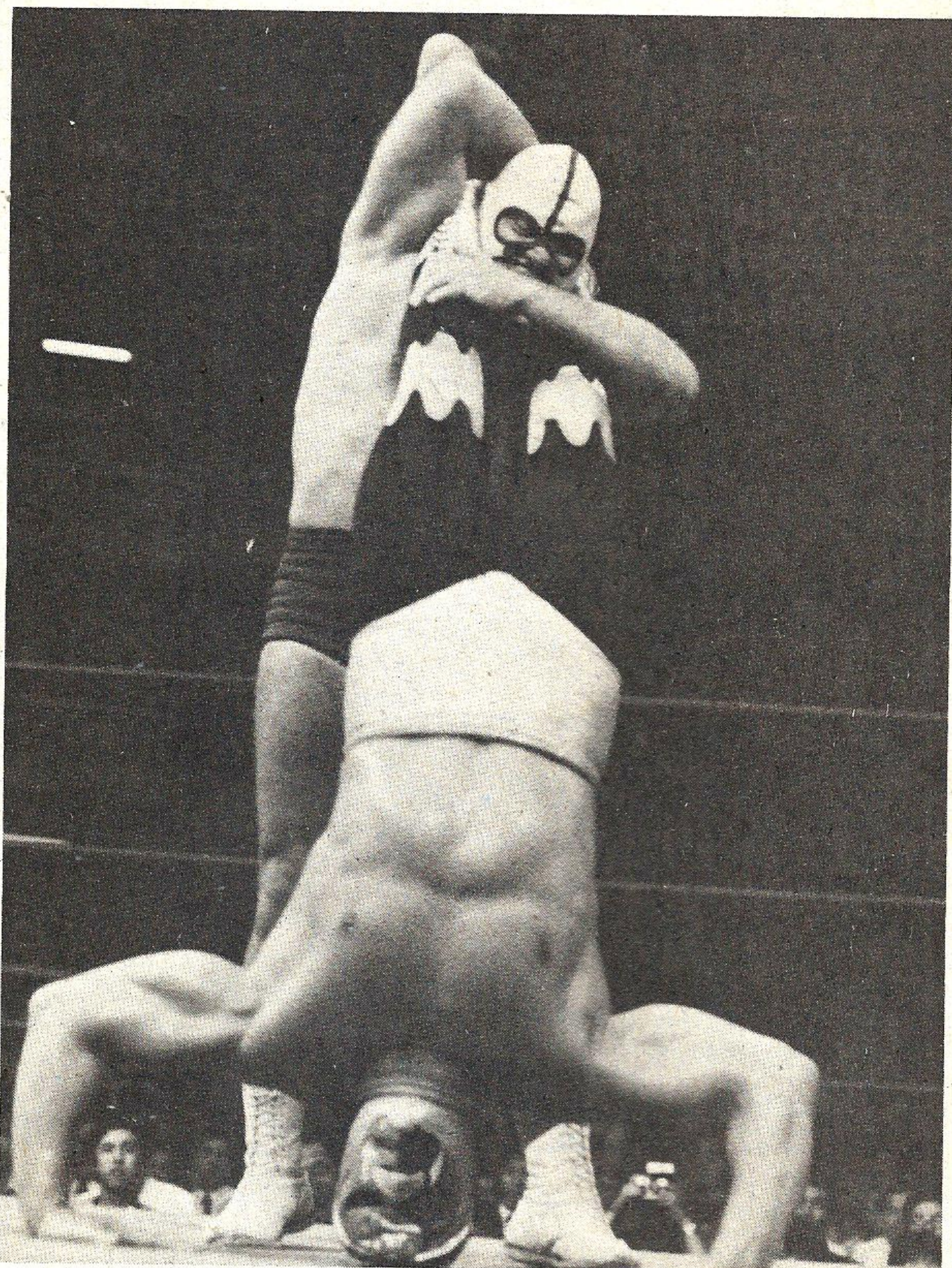


Mascaras has faced some of the most dangerous men in the world, including The Great Kojika (above) and Cyclone Negro (below). No matter how tough the challenger, Mil is willing to take him on. He feels he must to please his millions of fans.

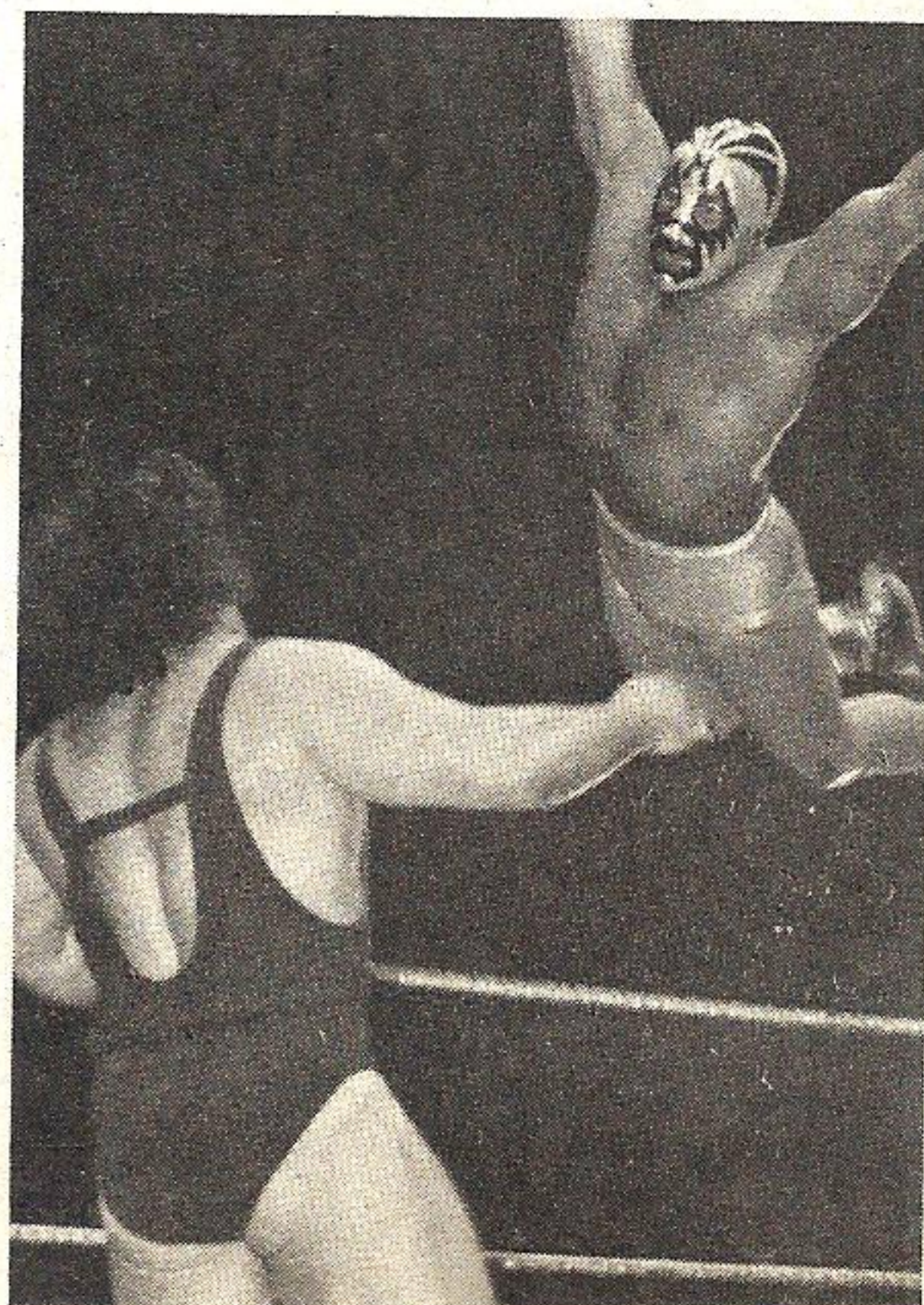
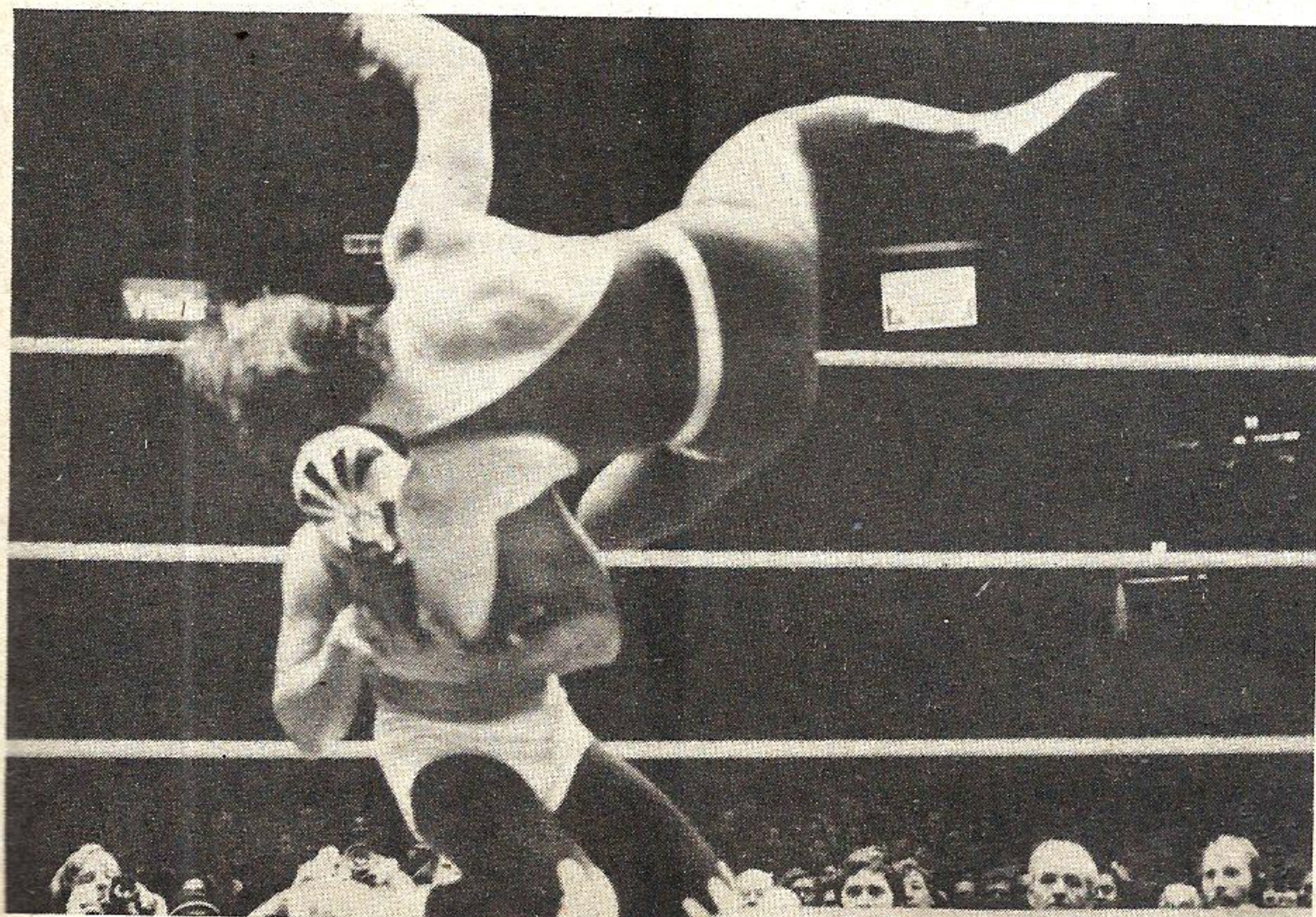




In another Mascaras triumph, Mil has his hand raised in victory after he defeats Bull Ramos, a man who has been known as one of the toughest wrestlers around (left). It appears Mil is in trouble during his match against The Destroyer (below), but looks can be deceiving. Mascaras broke free of the hold and went on to win the match!

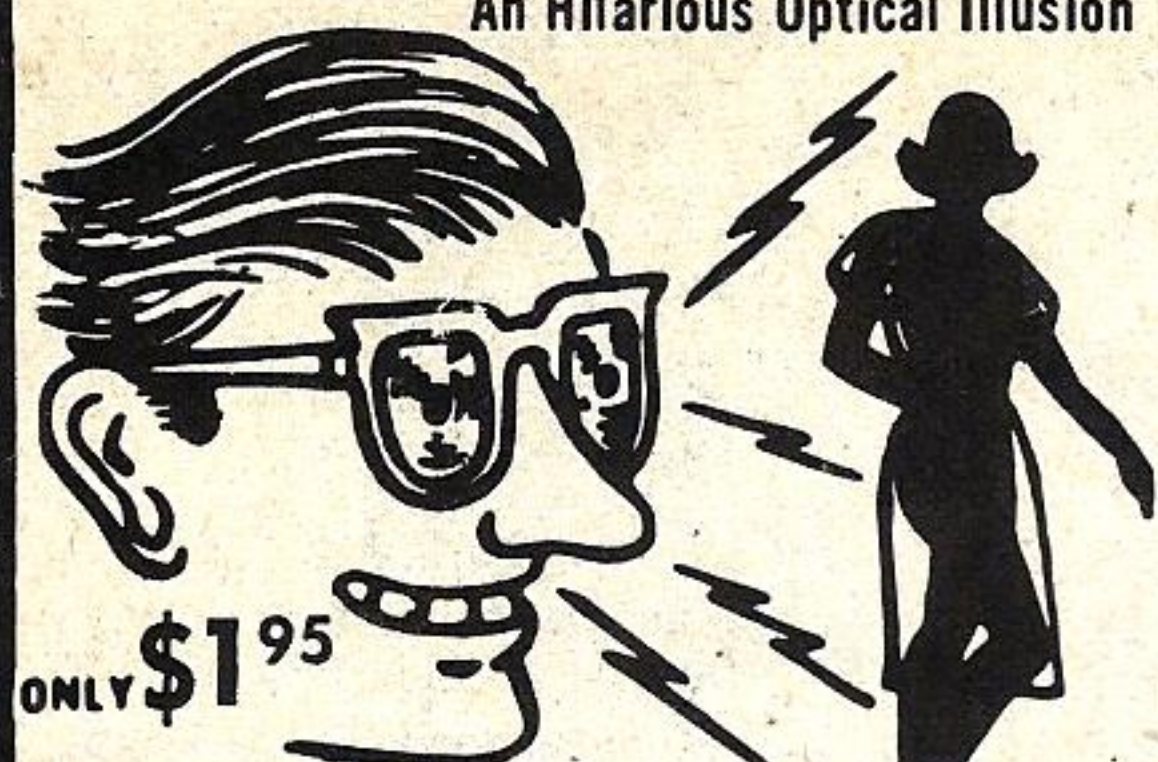


Below left, opposite page: In spite of terrific odds against him, Mascaras was able to beat a very tough opponent, Larry Heinime. Below: In his first appearance at New York's Madison Square Garden, Mil amazed the crowd when he took on Spoiler and won easily! Below right: Mil's most recent visit to the Garden packed the famed arena. His opponent for this match was Gashouse Gilbert, who is always a very tough competitor. Mascaras overcame the challenge with his flying tactics.



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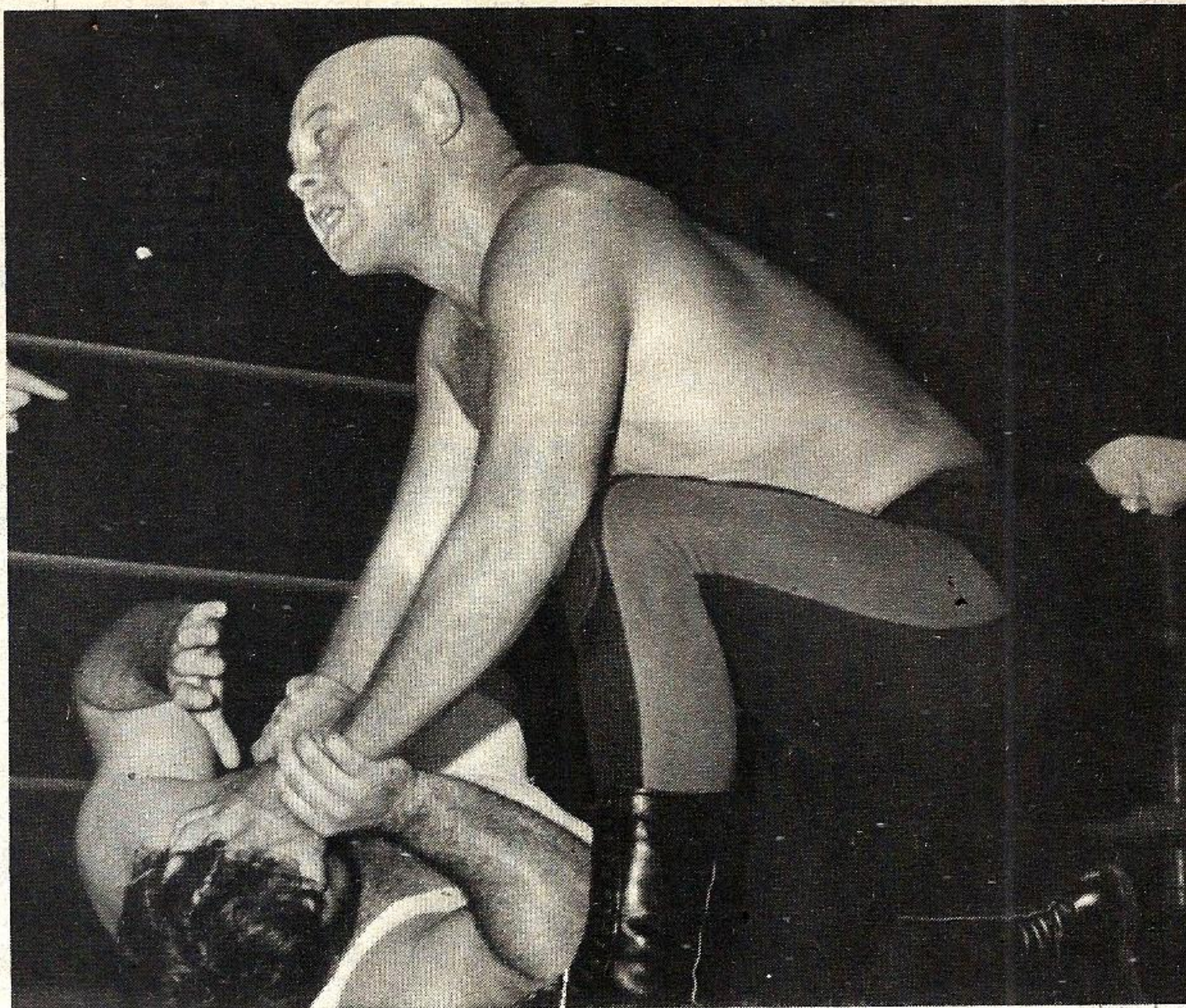
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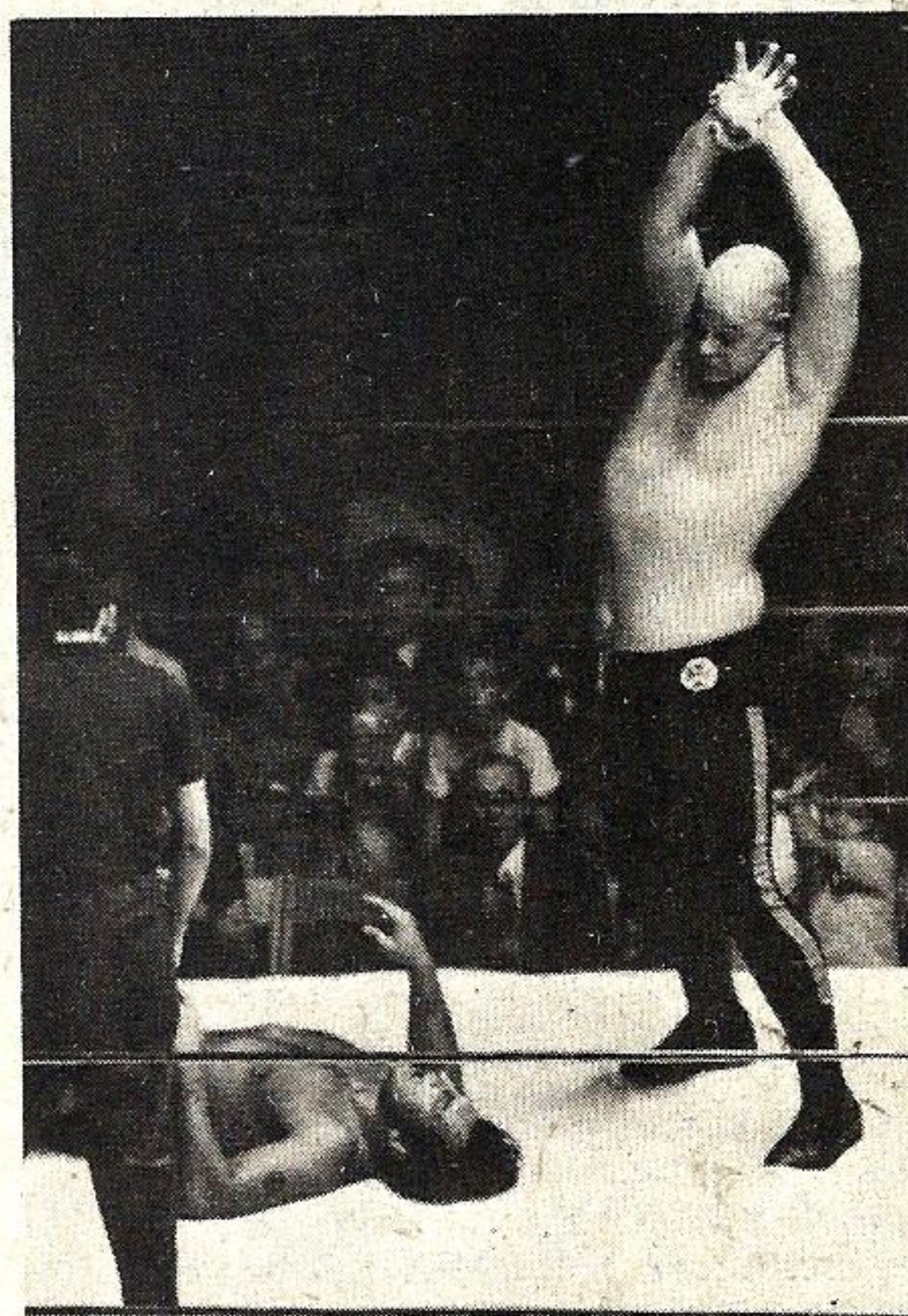
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WE ACCUSE

(Continued from Page 18)



Von Raschke savages Ivan Putski (above) in one of their brutal matches. It was fortunate that Putski was able to overcome the Claw. Von Raschke puts his entire body into the maneuver (below) in order to defeat an opponent.



maim. Baron could win under any circumstances. Only cruelty makes him use the brain claw. There is no reason wrestling must allow Von Raschke to indulge his sadistic impulses.

However, the best words to make this point have been spoken by the Baron himself. When informed we were doing this article, he laughed. When his amusement was spent, he made the following statement. We quote it in its entirety:

"I don't care what happens to the people I wrestle. Let them spend the rest of their lives as vegetables. None of them amounts to much anyway. When I consider my opponents, it's hard to tell if brain damage has taken place. They were morons to begin with!

"They'll never ban the brain claw. It won't matter to me anyway. I'll use it all the same, but I'll make sure the referee doesn't see it. Whatever they do to try and stop me, they'll fail. I'm the biggest man in wrestling. I'm bigger than wrestling."

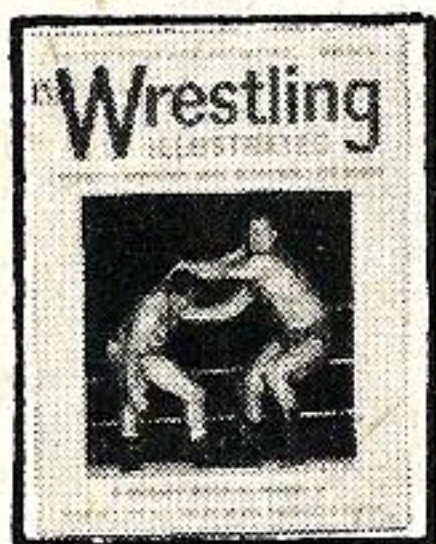
No man is bigger than the sport supporting him. If Von Raschke is allowed to publicly take on the wrestling establishment and win, chaos can be the only result. The fate of the entire sport hangs in the balance. If any rule is to be enforced, Baron Von Raschke's brain claw must be banned. On this there can be no compromise. The sport, whether it knows it or not, is fighting for its life. □

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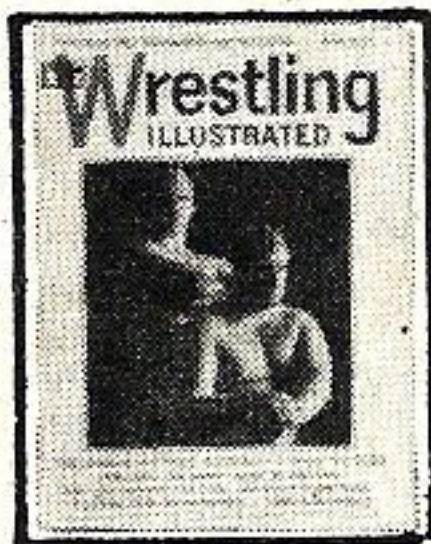
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TONY GAREA

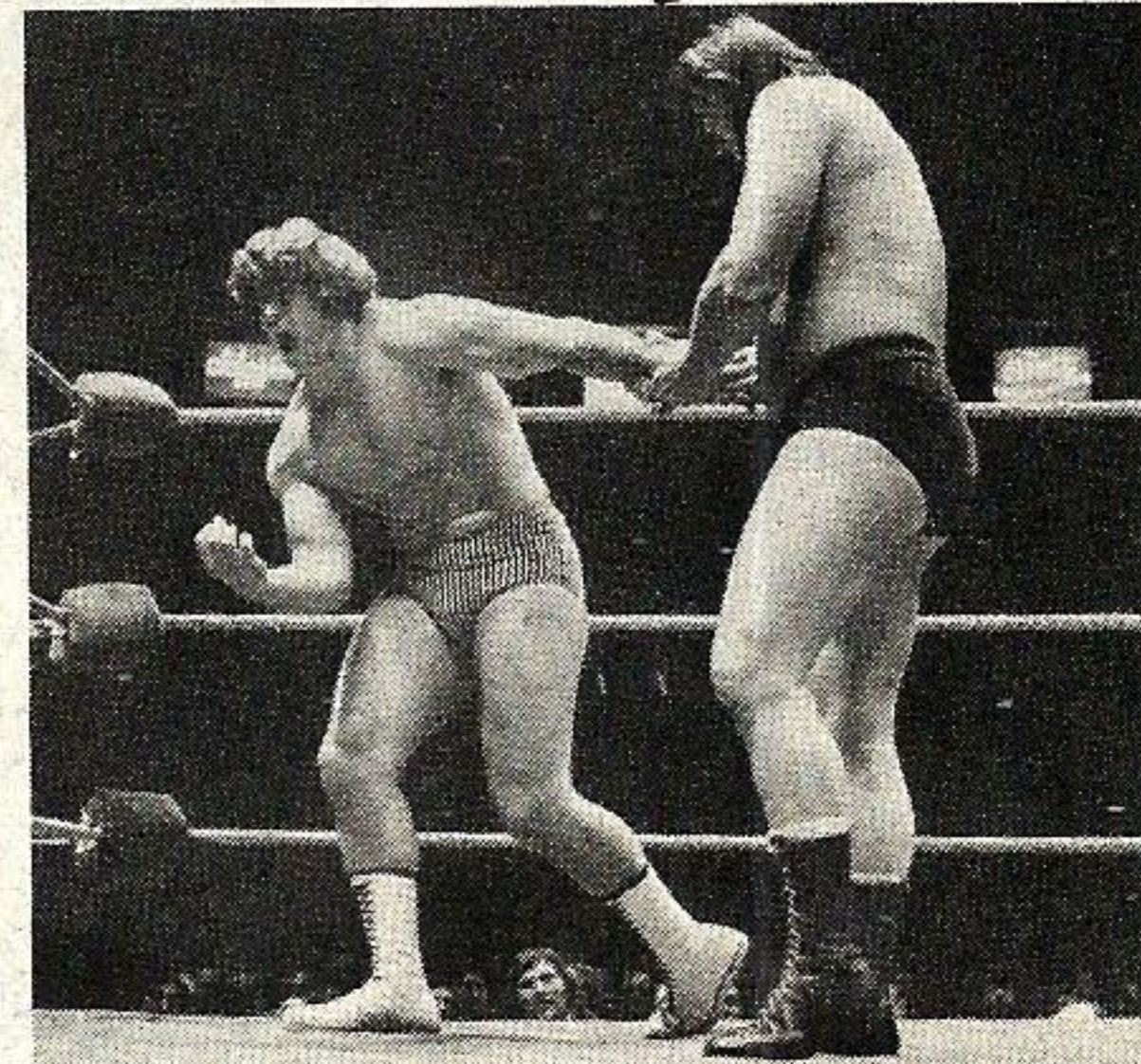
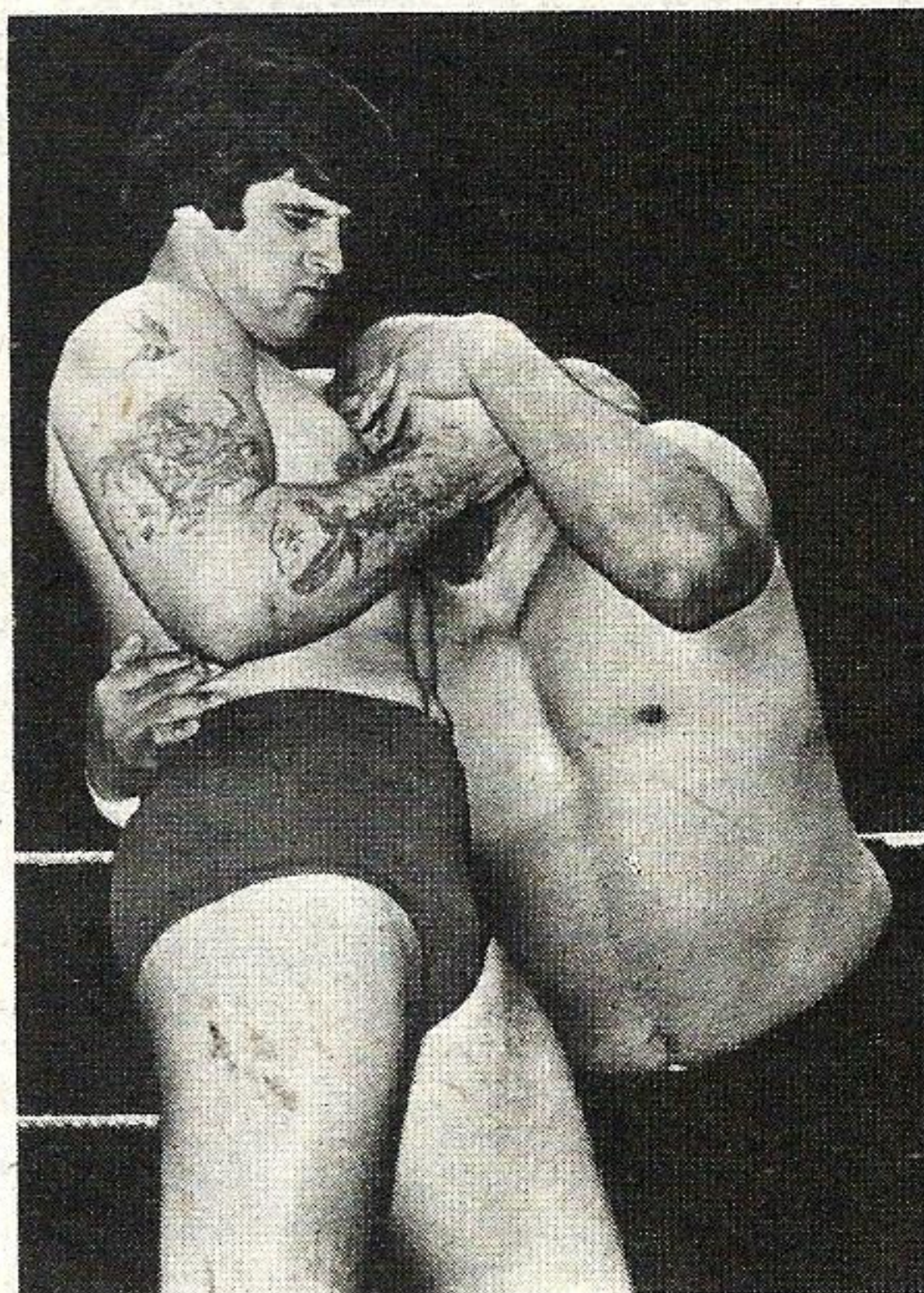
(Continued from Page 29)

matters. It was necessary to return. But Garea knew that was impossible. He could not go home. He would not go back to New Zealand. Not yet. He couldn't.

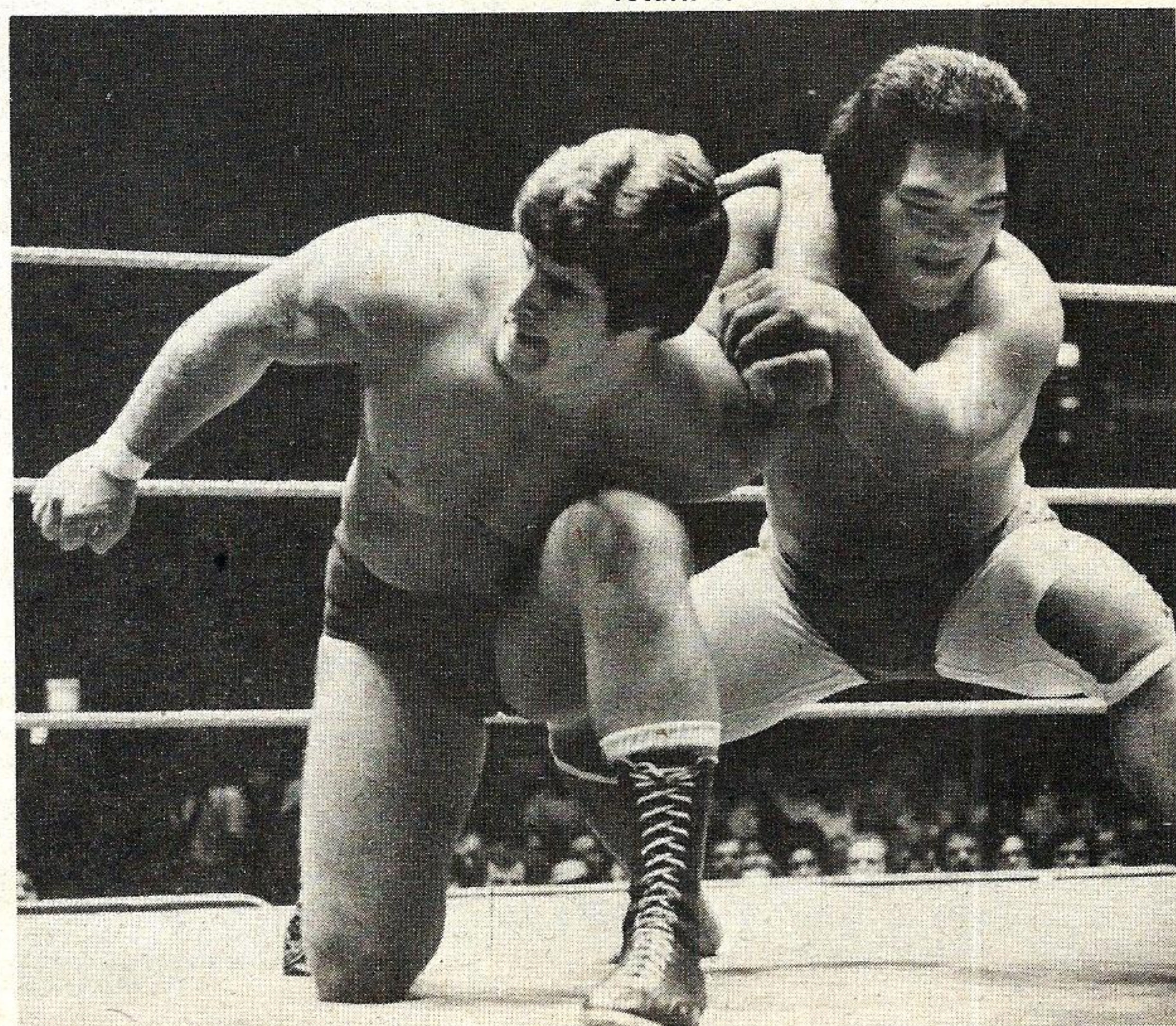
He still remembered a time not that long ago, when he was younger and still living in New Zealand. He had determined he would devote his life to the sport of wrestling. It had long been his goal. He was ready to make his dream a reality.

But many people in his family were opposed to his notion. They did not want Tony to become a professional wrestler; they had other pursuits in mind for the young man. But Tony was unyielding. The only thing he wanted to be was a professional wrestler. Anything else seemed unimportant to him.

His relatives were upset by Garea's firm stand. Finally, however, they realized there was



Tony Garea has faced dangerous men like Toru Tanaka (left), Don Leo Jonathan (above), and Kobayashi (below). But he has never had a chance to wrestle for the world championship. Tony vowed he would win the belt before he would ever return to New Zealand.



nothing they could do to change his mind. They allowed him to pursue his interest.

When it became clear to Tony he would have to move to the United States in order to fully develop his career, the relatives became upset all over again. They refused to give their sanction to the move. Garea was furious. He decided to leave New Zealand in spite of what his family said. But before he left, he told them, "I will not come back here until I am a world champion. Then you will see I was right all along. You will be sorry you ever tried to stop me!"

The angry statement of a brash young man has caused considerable pain and heartache over the years. There was no question Garea wanted to go back to New Zealand to see the people he loved. But he had vowed never to return until he won a championship. The vow remains unbroken.

It wasn't as if Tony hasn't tried to fulfill his pledge. He has attempted to have the opportunity to win a title. The lucky break just has not happened yet. In the meantime, Garea has become one of the most popular and loved men in the sport today. He might not have a belt around his waist, but he has thousands of admiring fans. But that accomplishment is not enough. He needs to win a championship.

Even Tony's family has tried to make him forget his pledge. They understand the vow was the passionate statement of a foolish young man. The family knows Tony is older, wiser now than he was when he blurted out his promise never to return until he was a world champion. Indeed, his family is quite proud of his great accomplishments in wrestling. Still, Tony refuses to return to the native land. He says he can't.

Garea still hopes to win a championship. He still looks forward to the day when he can board a jetliner for New Zealand, the belt in his hand. Then he can look at his relatives and say, "See, I told you I could do it. I told you I could become a champion."

But until that day comes, Tony Garea can never go home. □

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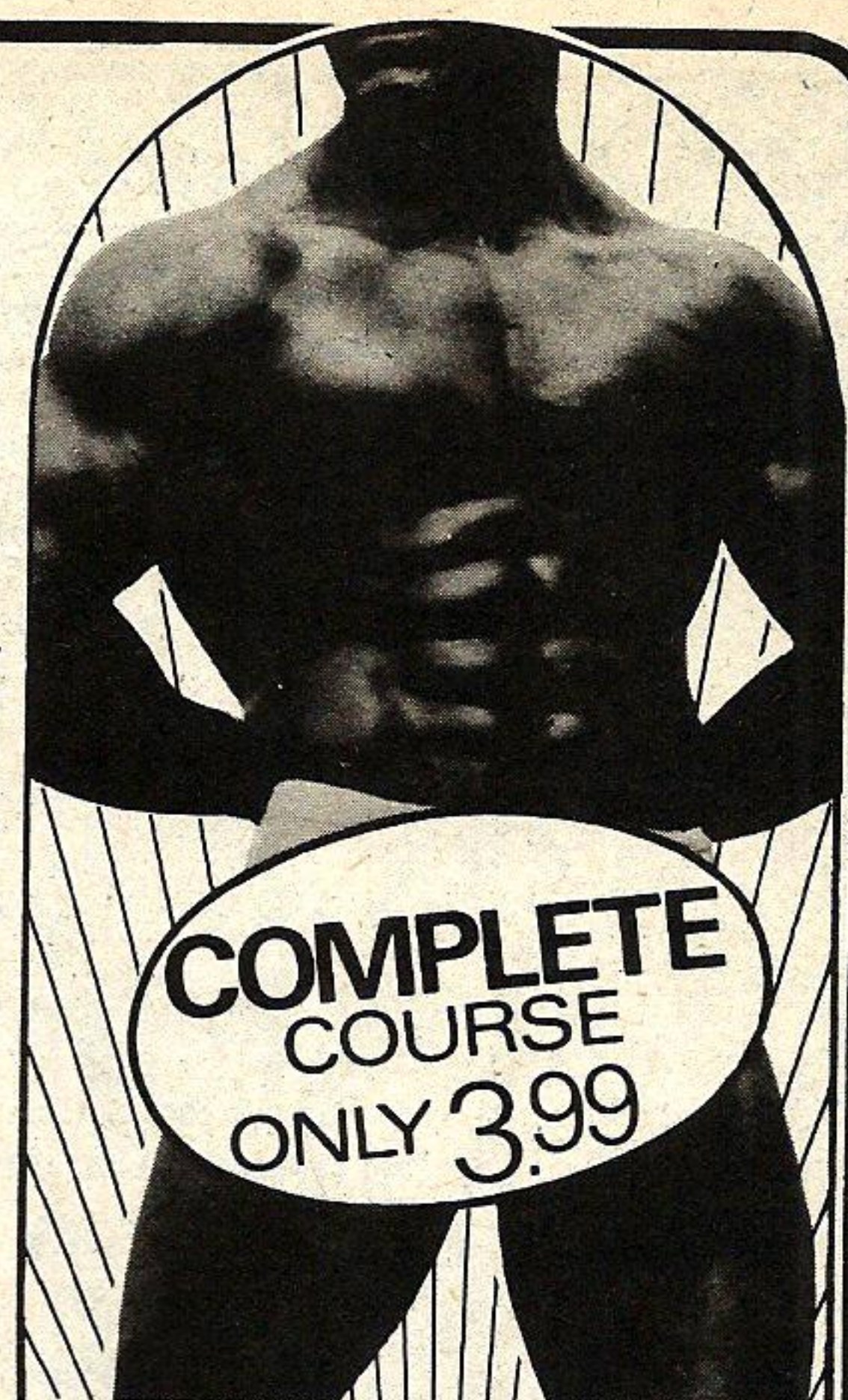
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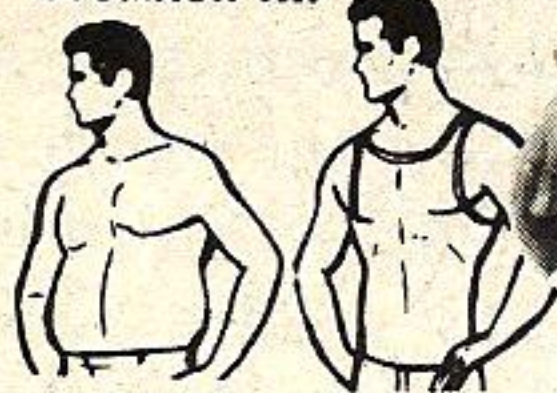
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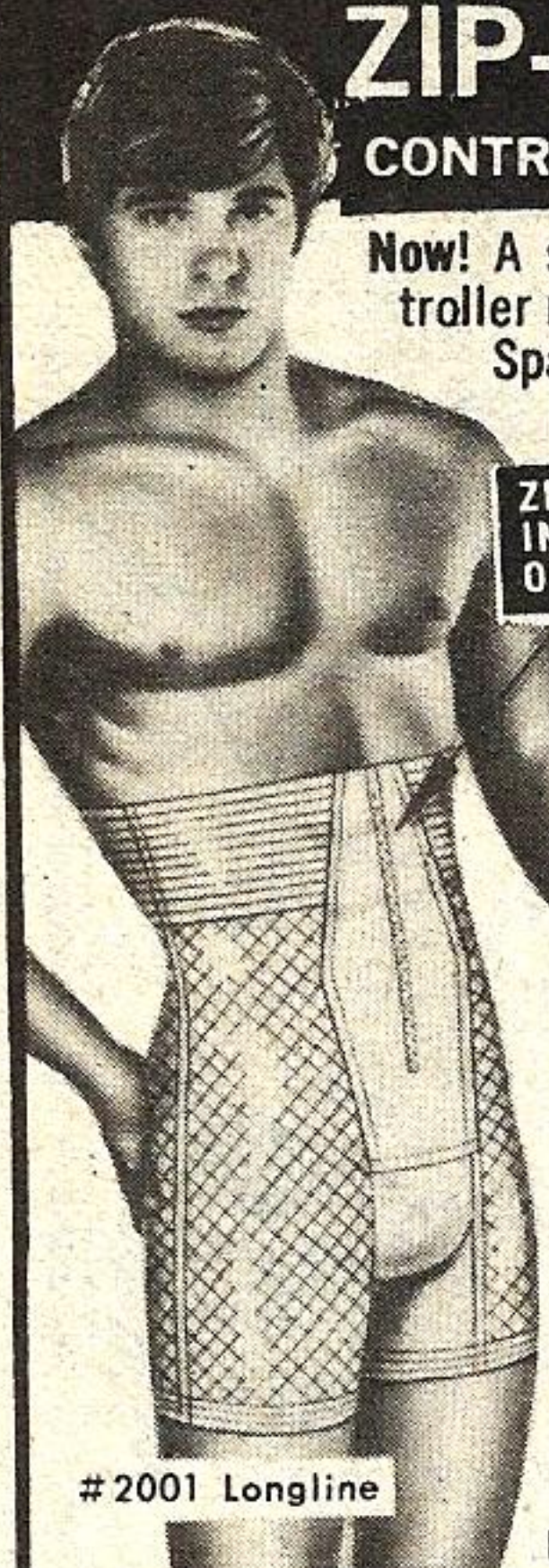
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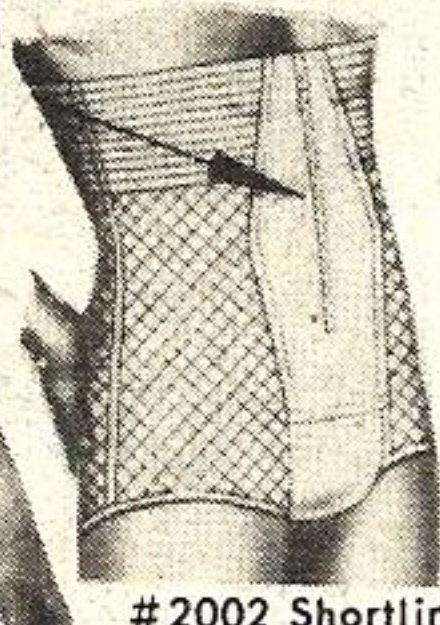
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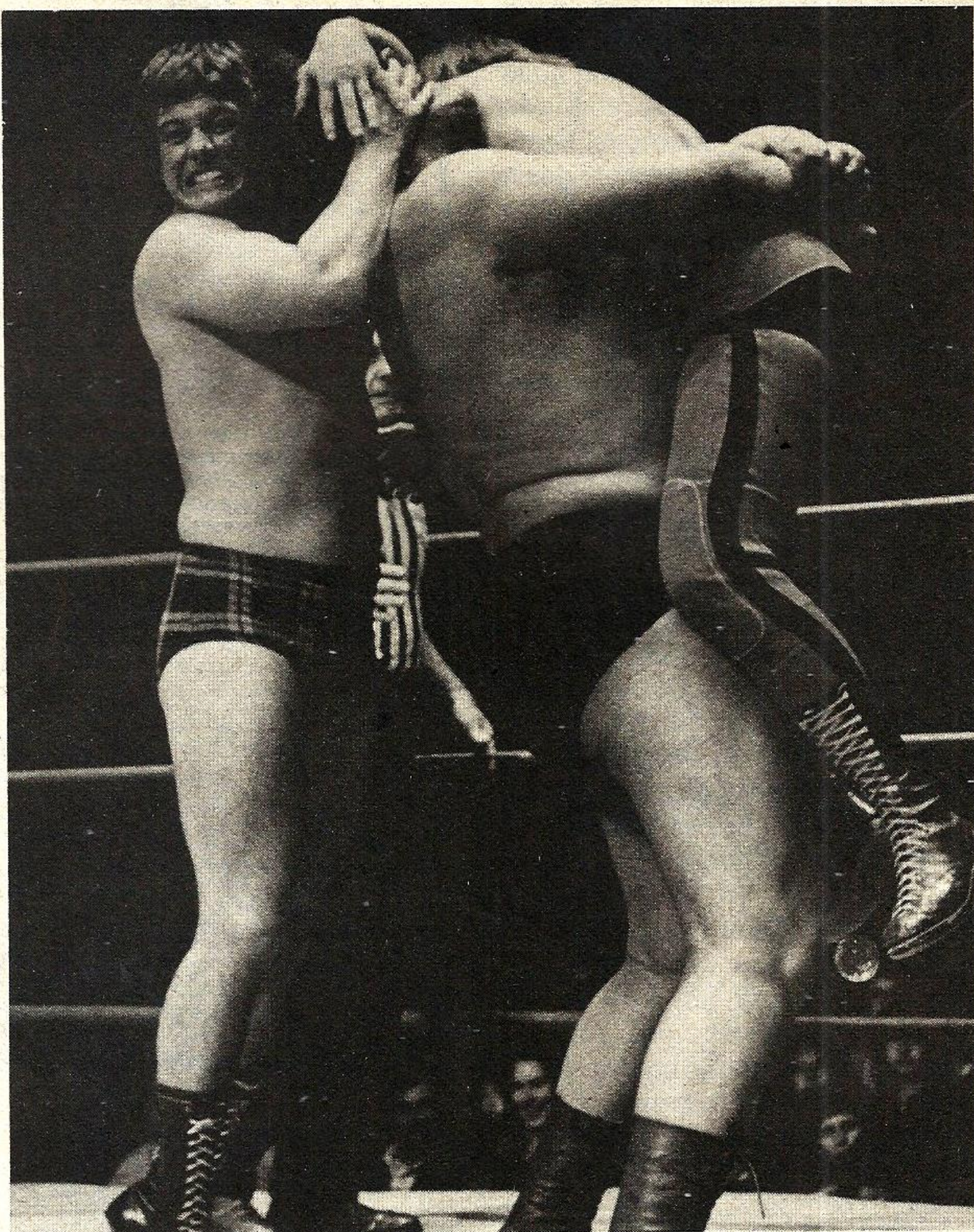
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ANDRE THE GIANT

(Continued from Page 31)



Just when Andre thought he had Rock Riddle under control, Roddy Piper joins the action and attacks the gargantuan wrestler. Andre faced this kind of ruthlessness throughout the entire match. It almost proved to be more than Andre could handle.

wrestle with the way the muscle is now without ever suffering any further injury. Probably. But if it happened again, I'd say there was an 80 percent chance you wouldn't survive."

The doctor let those words sink in before continuing, "Now, the muscle is not permanently damaged. It can be repaired. It'll take a lot of hard work, but you're no stranger to physical training. The decision is yours."

"When do we begin?"

"I think we have to wait a couple of weeks. Your body took one hell of a shock. You're going to have to take it easy for a few days. However, there's something I'd better add. You're going

to have to cut down on your schedule. It was the inhuman number of matches you wrestle which caused the problem in the first place. Even after the muscle is healed, you'll have to slow down."

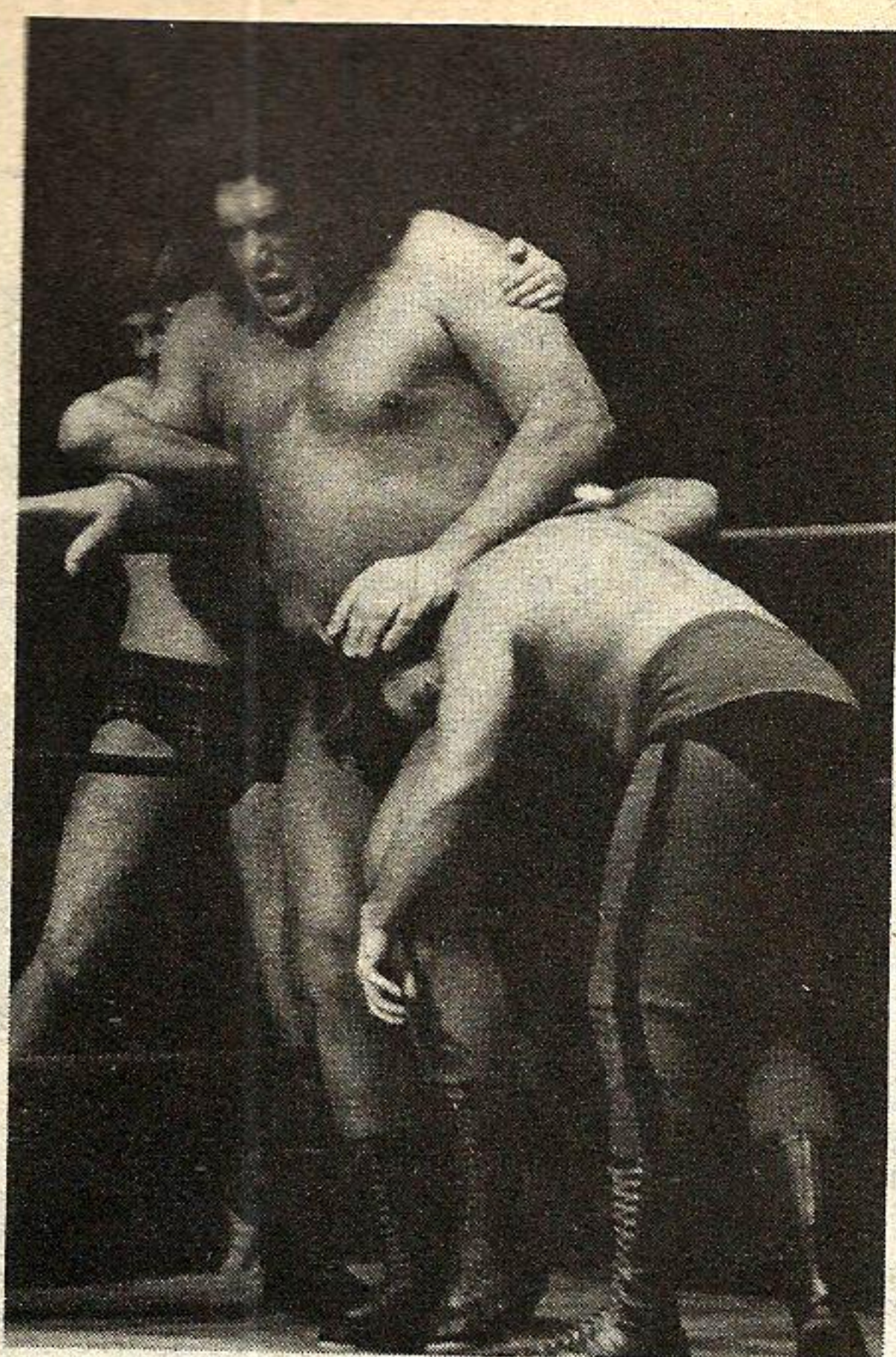
The bad news. Andre feared it had to come at some time.

"And what happens if I don't let up on my schedule?"

"No doctor in the world will take responsibility for you."

That's about as final as it gets. Andre had no choice but rethink his entire life. There would be matches to cancel, fans to disappoint. It couldn't be helped.

Andre thought a lot while laid up in



Roddy Piper tries to assist his partner during a crucial moment of the match. No tactic was too low for Riddle and Piper to employ against Andre!

the hospital bed. Fortunately, he'd been spared. He was still alive. The years remaining had to have some real purpose. He had to figure out where and against whom he would be needed most.

There would have to be a serious consideration about a world title. No longer could that be put off until someday; someday was now. He would have to choose wisely and well. He could no longer afford to go after anyone when the fancy suited him. His enemies would have to earn the distinction.

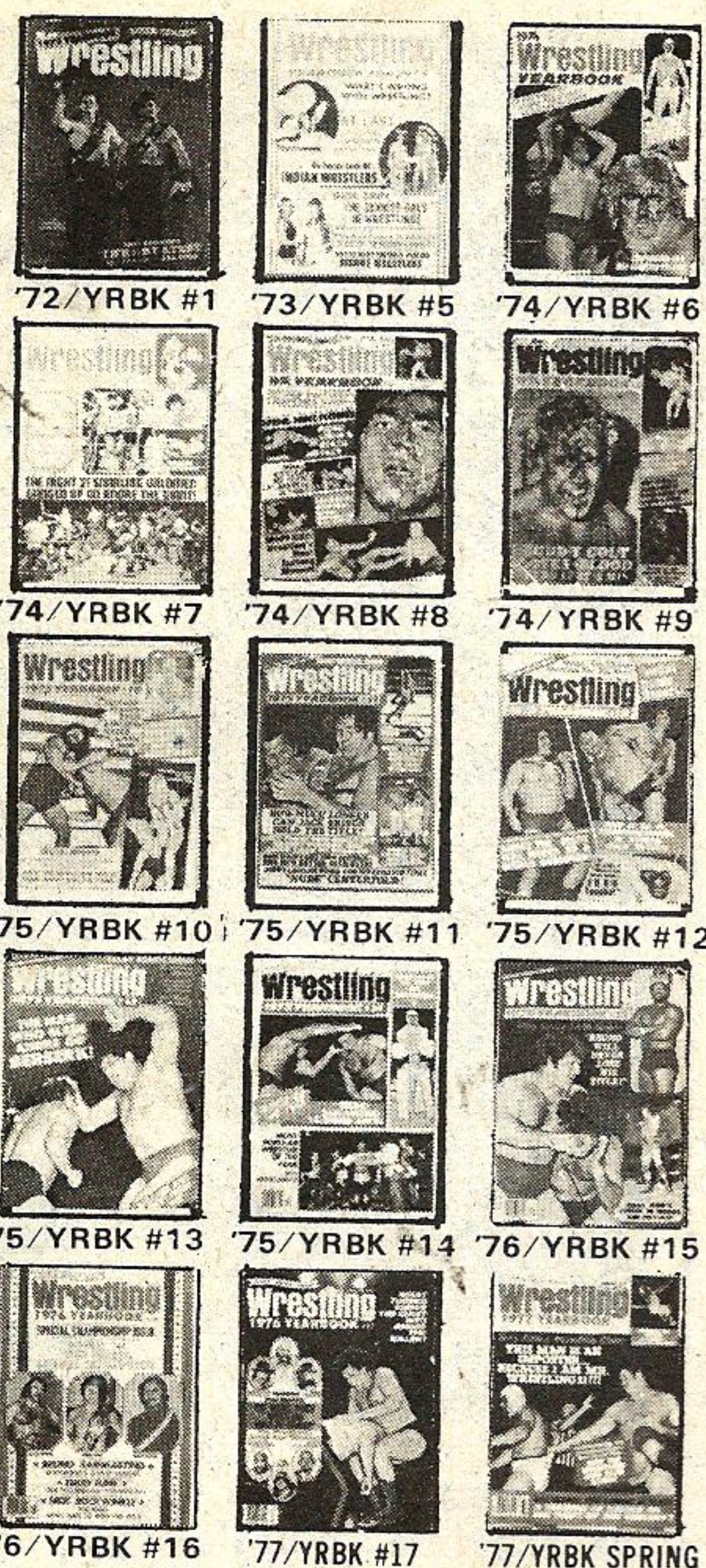
Still, he knew he would always be at the fans beck and call. He would go where needed, no matter what the consequence. That would always be the most important consideration. If it meant risking his life on occasion, he would if the occasion warranted. Life isn't worth living on the run. Challenges must be met.

Andre hasn't worked out the specifics of his life. That will come in time. Commissions and promotions will have to be notified. A great deal of paperwork must be done. Changing a man's entire life is a complicated process.

Andre the Giant will continue to wrestle as well as ever. Yet, each match will have a special importance. These are the battles he has chosen as the most important in his life. ☐

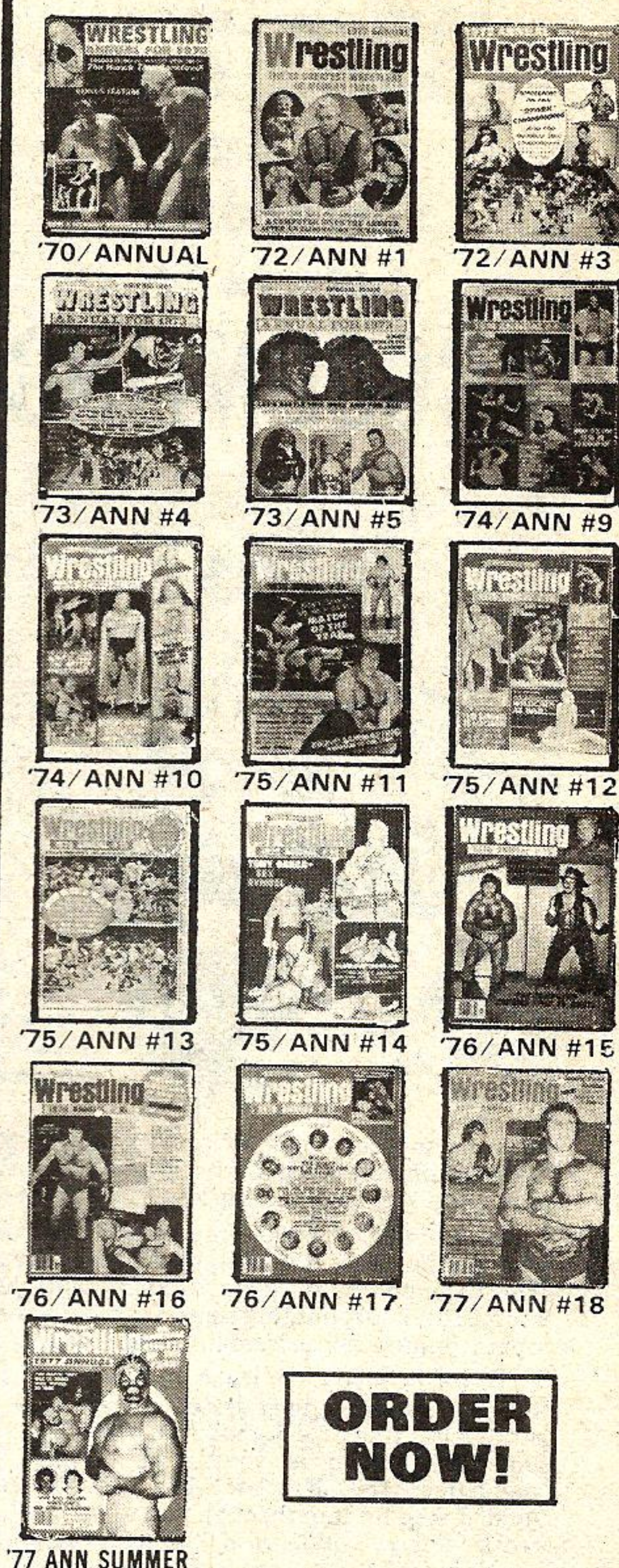
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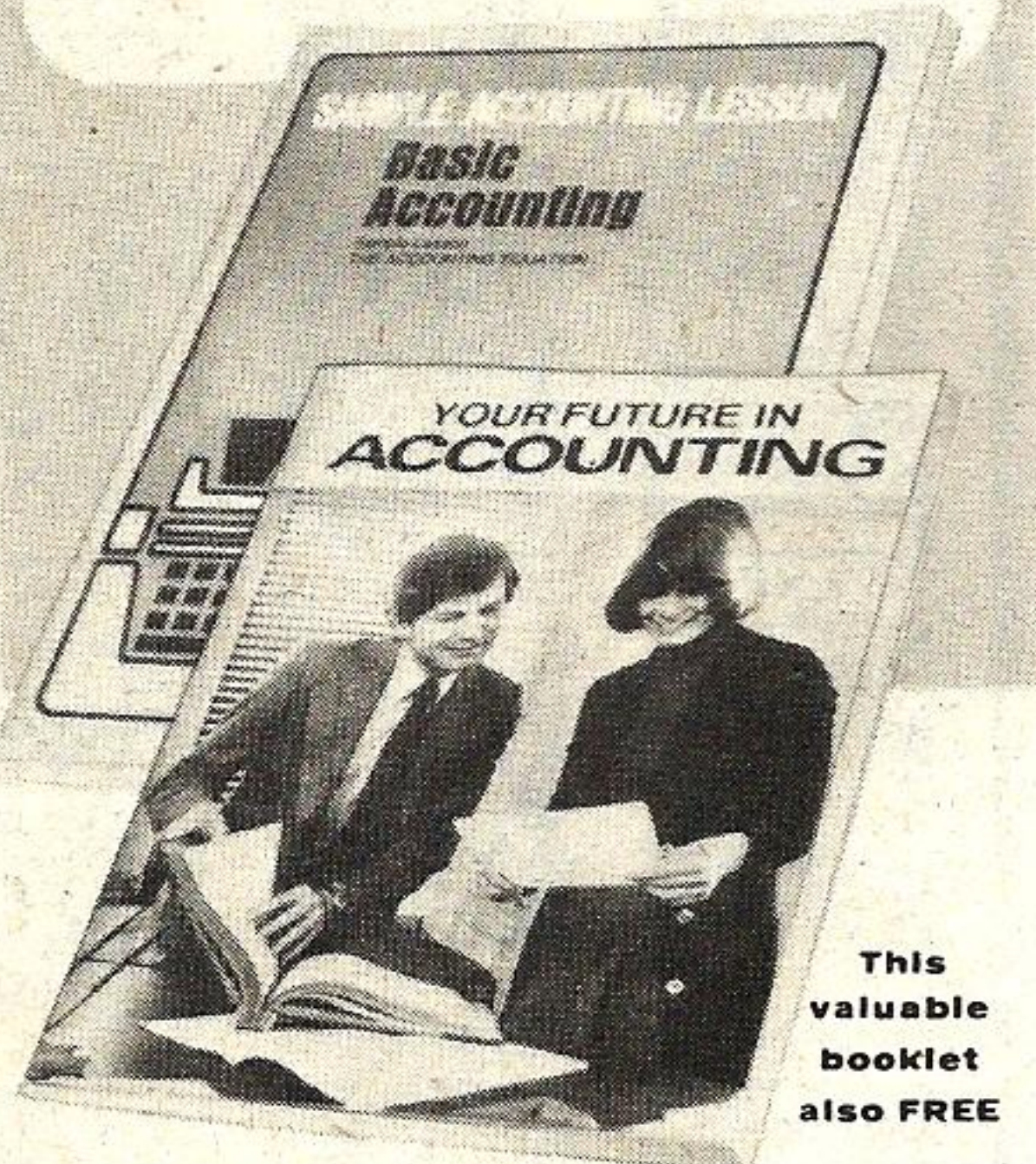
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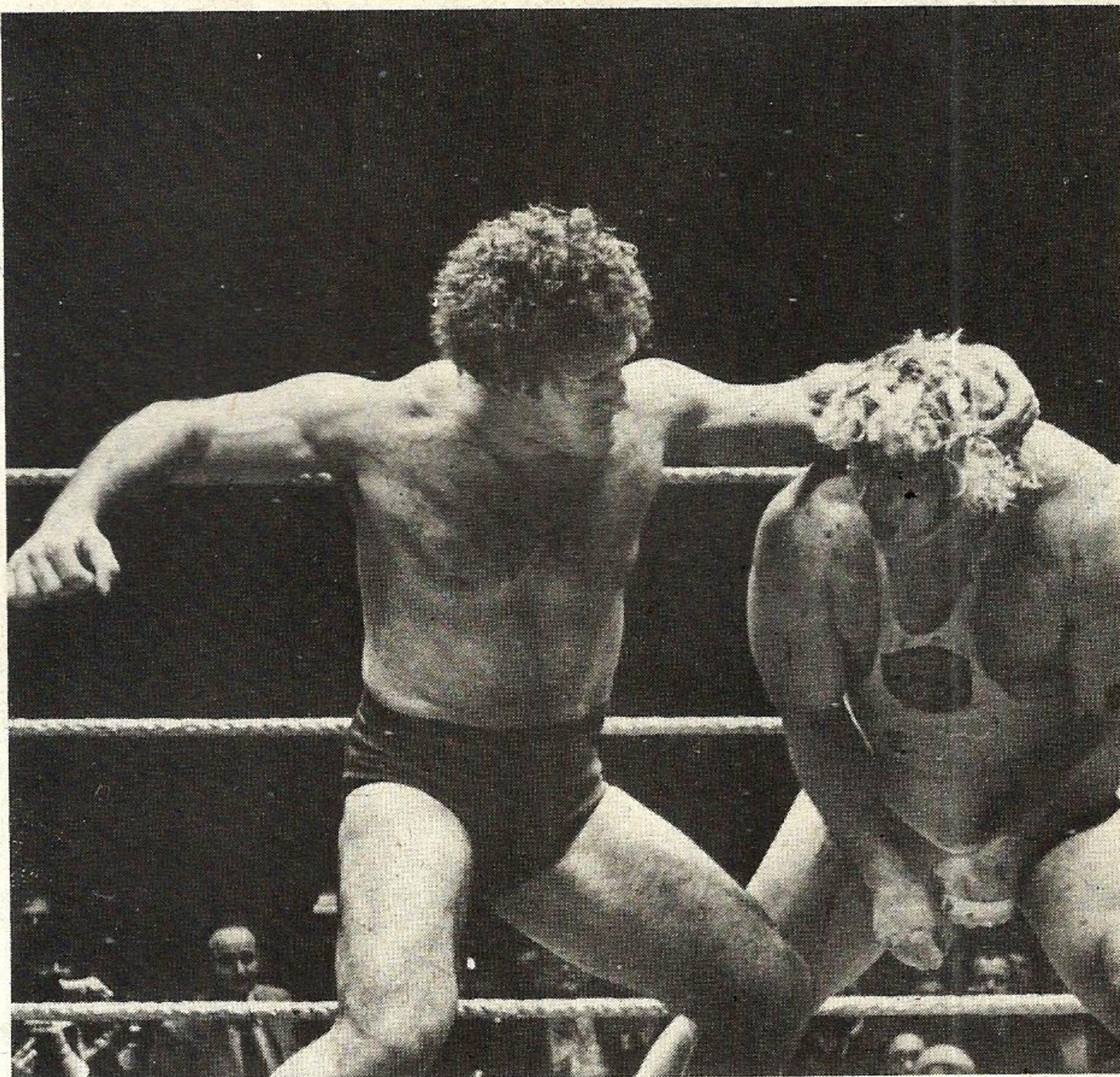
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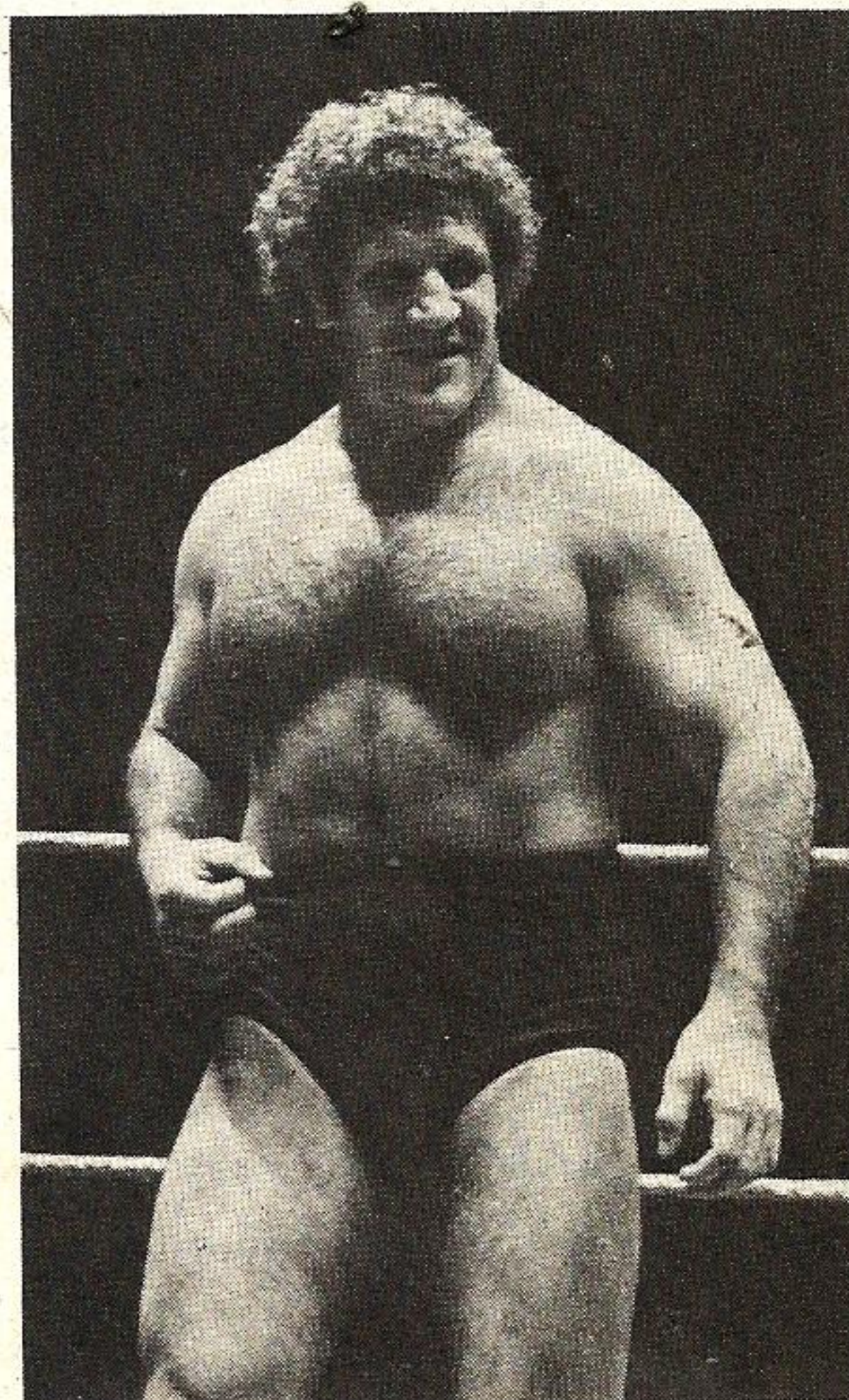
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WRESTLER OF THE MONTH

(Continued from Page 22)



Ken Patera was the most serious challenge to Bruno's title, but Sammartino was able to overcome him (above). Just seconds after the match ended, Bruno is seen still poised for action (below).



Patera was a fearsome opponent throughout the match. As always, his strength astounded everyone. However, most remarkable was the man's cunning. Under the guidance of Albano, Ken maneuvered with a cruel brilliance. Against any other man on any other night, Patera would have been victorious. In fact, against Sammartino on another night, he might have taken the title. It was his bad fortune to meet Sammartino on the night no one on earth could defeat him.

One can look forward to Patera in many top championship battles. In the near future, one can assume he will be a champion. He has all the qualifications, plus Albano. It is also probable a few top athletes will have their careers ended by this ruthless grappler.

But for the present, fans can savor the greatness of Bruno Sammartino, Wrestler of the Month. His accomplishment against Ken Patera will live forever in the sport's annals. What is more, he successfully stopped Lou Albano from controlling the WWWF championship, a situation too horrible to even contemplate. □

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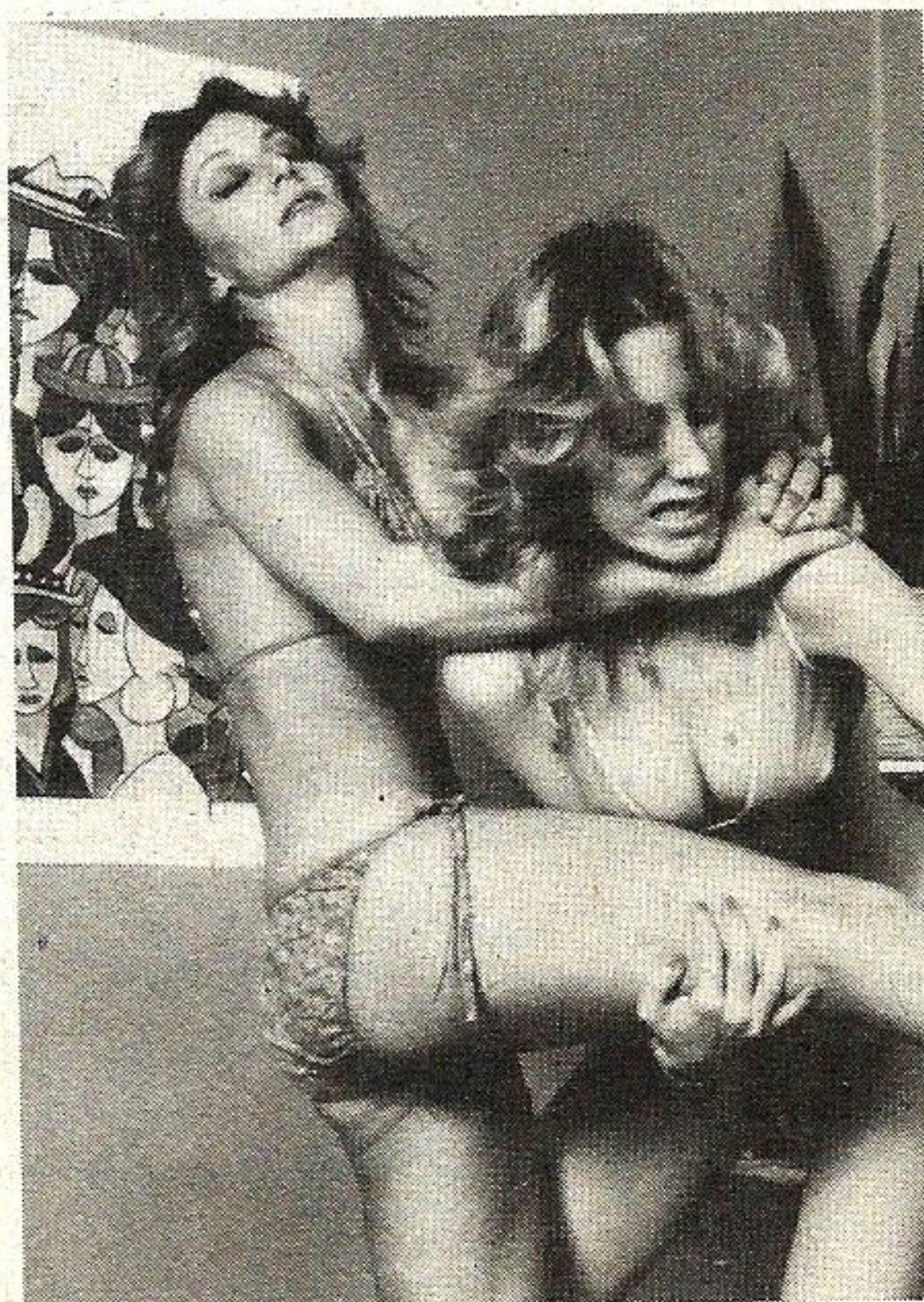


Apartment Wrestling Shocker

(Continued from Page 36)



Above: Magdalena straddles Jacqueline, trying to force the lovely brunette to surrender. Below: Magdalena grits her teeth as she jerks up on the right leg of the shapely Jacqueline.



yawned.

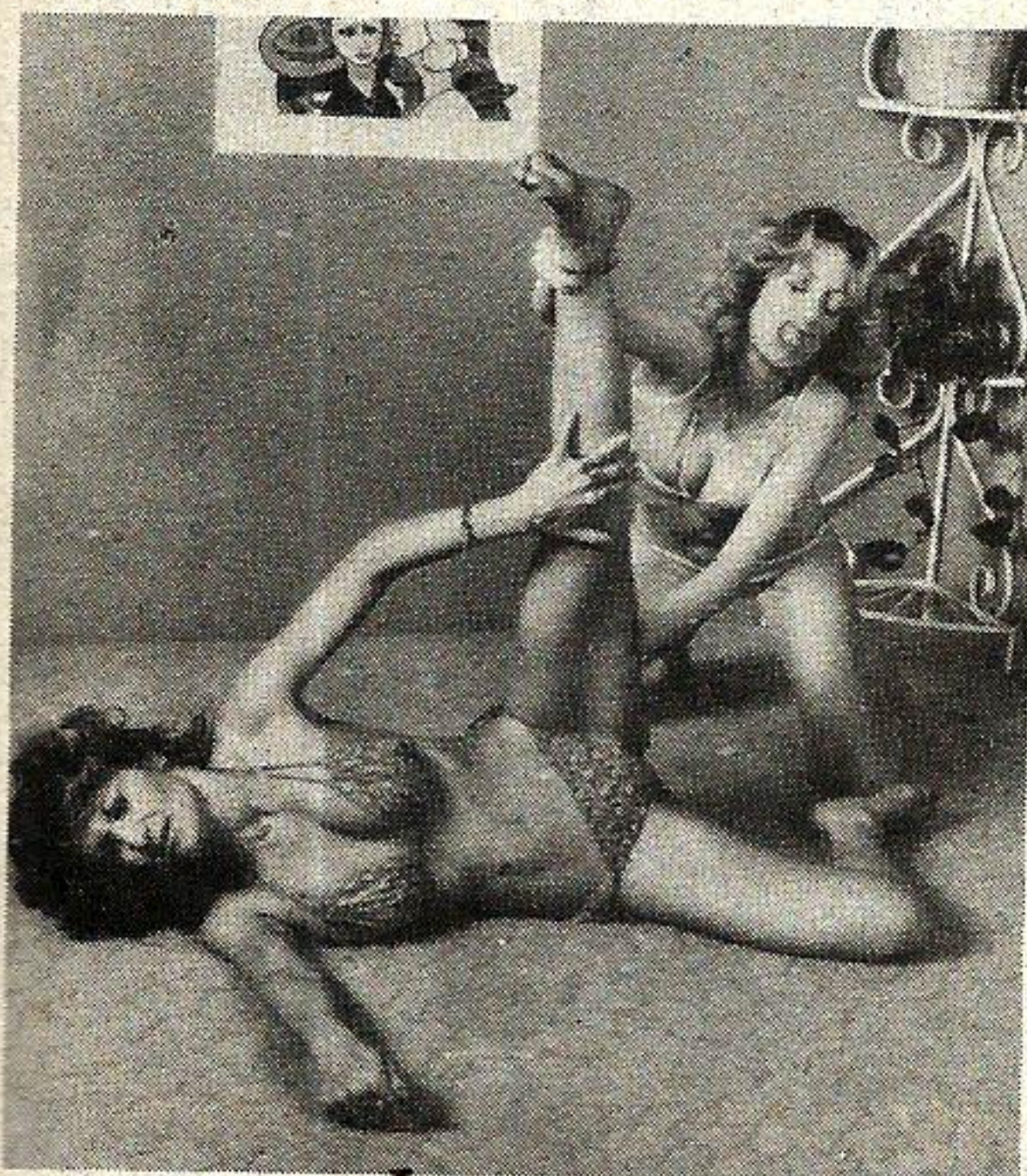
What Jacqueline had been given was a special tranquilizer. In larger doses, the drug is used to subdue hysterical patients. There was one instance of it being shot into the veins of a race horse. The horse never left the starting gate.

Naturally, Jacqueline suspected nothing as she entered the living room. She was a bit puzzled that the extra power hadn't come. It didn't bother her all that much. After all, the room radiated a lovely soft glow, all the spectators were her friends, and all was right with the world. She yawned again.

Seeing her lovely foe yawn infuriated Magdalena. The voluptuous blonde assumed her more experienced opponent was humiliating her in front of the onlookers. Magdalena's face revealed savage determination.



Above: Magdalena moans as she forces Jacqueline's legs into an unnatural position. Below: Weakened by the drug, Jacqueline is in agony as her legs are spread torturously apart.



Staring at the look of rage, the bettors feared for their money. Richard smiled happily. What the drug couldn't do, Magdalena would. Jacqueline yawned.

The drug's full effects wouldn't overcome Jacqueline for the first 10 minutes of the match. Richard didn't want to make it too obvious. When the match was signaled to begin, the brunette could still defend herself and mount a fairly competent attack. Myles smiled, knowing the losers would get a little action for their money. And

(Continued on page 60)

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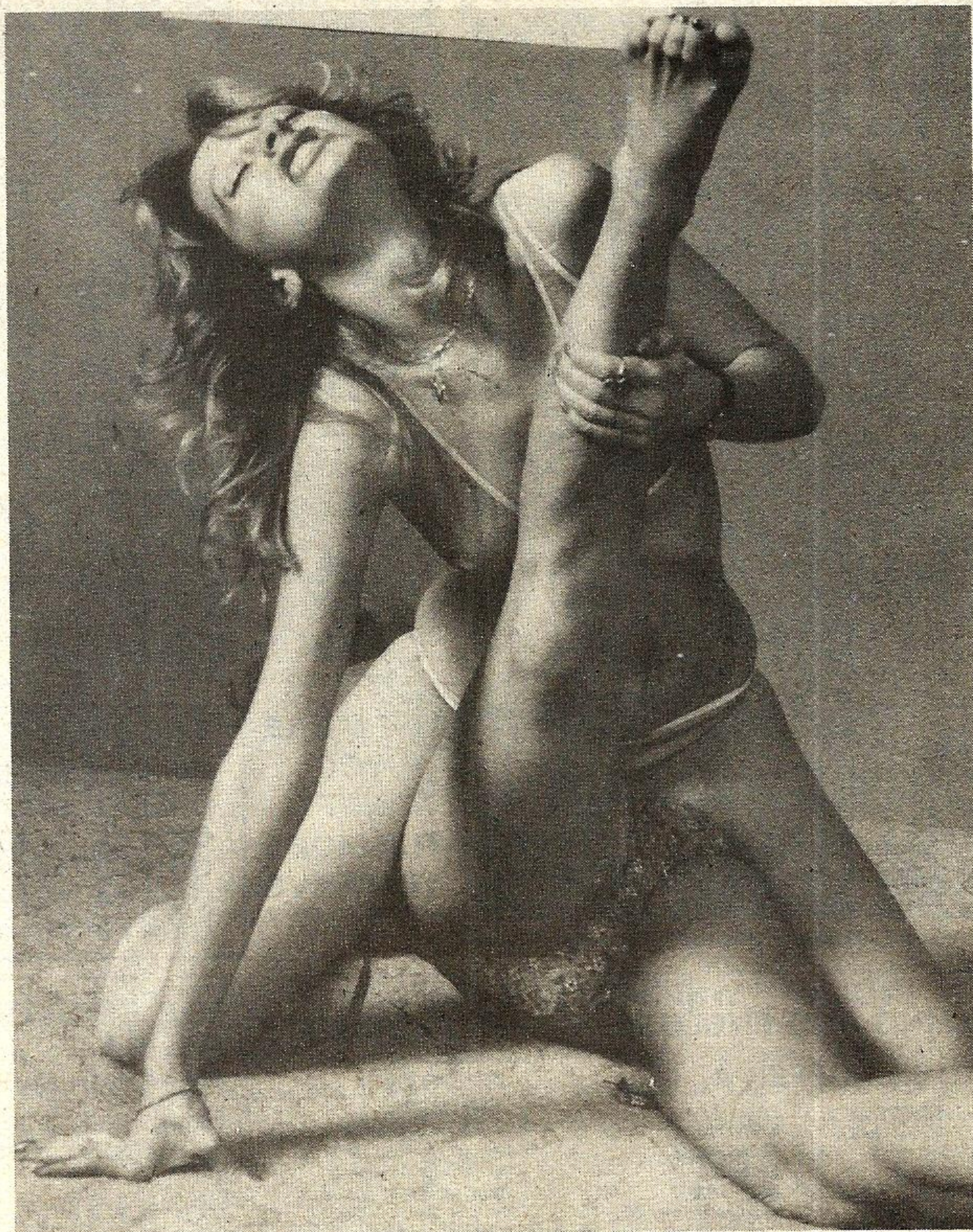
Apartment Wrestling Shocker

(Continued from Page 60)

Magdalena learned quickly why Jacqueline enjoyed her fearsome reputation. As the blonde stalked forward, Jacqueline lashed her foot into Magdalena's belly. The victim let out a rasping gasp and doubled over.

In retrospect, one could see the effects of the drug working even then. It took Jacqueline just a few moments too long to spring on her opponent. Magdalena had time to recover. Instead of quickly finishing off her blonde victim, Jacqueline had a battle on her hands.

The two women tore into each other. Jacqueline managed to get an advantage, straddling her foe and forcing the woman to the carpet. Magdalena writhed beneath the brunette's weight as she tried to escape. Again, Jacqueline should have been able to end the battle here, pinioning Magdalena to the carpet. Yet, with a crude maneuver, the blonde's lush body heaved off her tormentor. Jacqueline sprawled across the room. For a moment, she just lay there, unable to command her body to move.



Leaning on her right arm for leverage and support, the sexy blonde yanks up on Jacqueline's right leg, sending cries of agony throughout the penthouse and chills down the spines of the onlookers. It was punishment such as this, along with the drug mexyltetrahydrelene, that finally caused Jacqueline to give up.

Panic filled Jacqueline's eyes. She realized the drug was not a pep pill of any kind. She'd been slipped a Mickey Finn. Unless she could win in the next few minutes, doom was the only conclusion. With a remarkable will, the woman rose to her feet and tried to vanquish her opponent and time.

Awkwardly, she flew into Magdalena. The blonde was caught by surprise and fell to the carpet. Jacqueline went to work. Limbs were twisted and mauled. With all her remaining strength, the brunette peppered blows into her victims breasts, belly, and thighs. Squeals escaped Magdalena's throat as she tried to roll out from under this fusilage.

Functioning with a clouded brain, Jacqueline worked on her foe's legs. If she could tear the muscles in Magdalena's alabaster thighs, the match would be over quickly. Grabbing the blonde's knees, Jacqueline pushed outward. Magdalena's legs went out in different directions and her body arched in agony. The end looked near. Richard went pale.

However, the drug proved stronger than the woman's will. She couldn't keep the hold on her foe for a long enough time. Magdalena broke the hold and rolled away. Jacqueline remained where she was, physically spent. If one looked into the brunette's eyes, they seemed to say, "Here comes the beating." Her eyes didn't lie.


When Magdalena recovered from her pain, she leapt at her foe. Jacqueline barely resisted. The drug was close to its peak. Torturous blows reigned down upon her. They were impossible to counter, barely able to be defended against. Slowly but surely, this once proud athlete was reduced to helpless victim.

Magdalena's face betrayed her wild delight at being victorious. There would be no mercy from this young lady. Her dream of conquest was being realized. Using the powerless woman before her, the blonde would make her reputation.


Magdalena began her offense by raining punches on Jacqueline's

(Continued on page 64)


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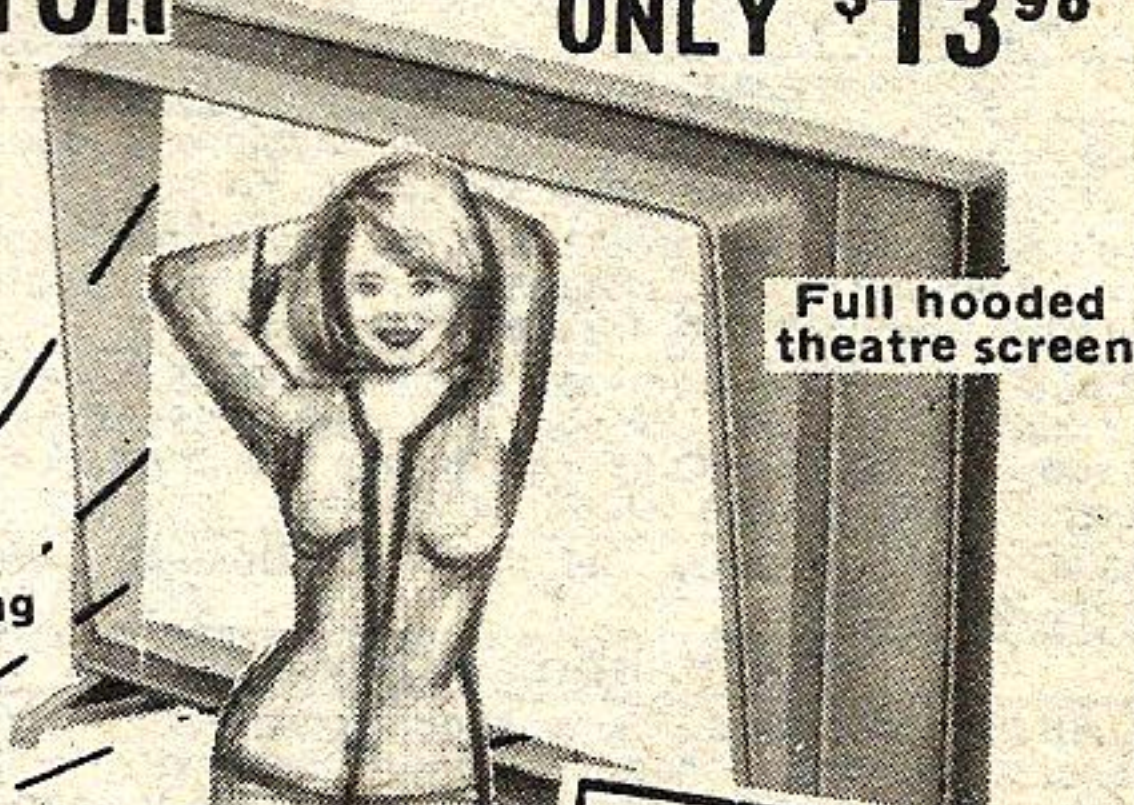
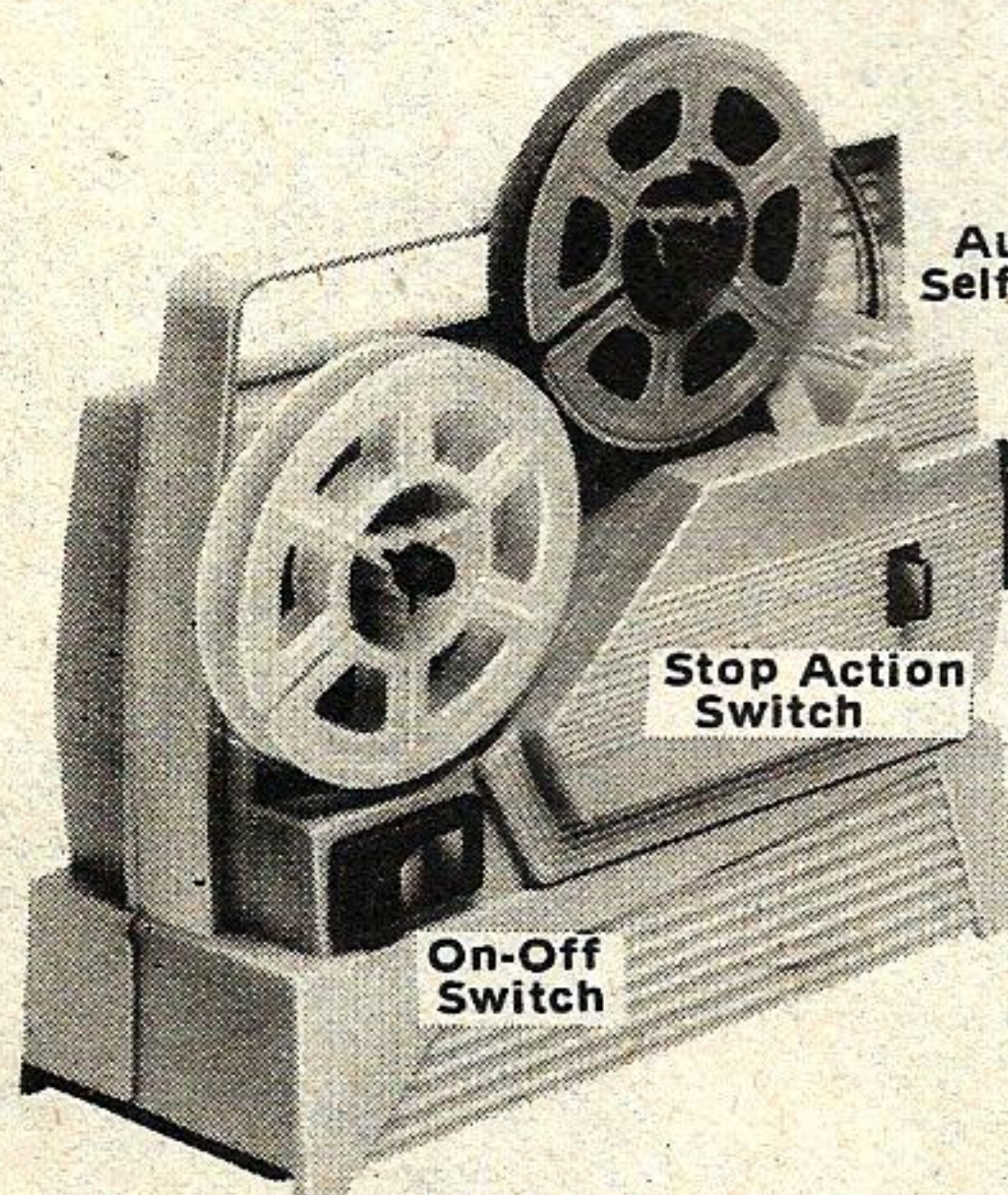
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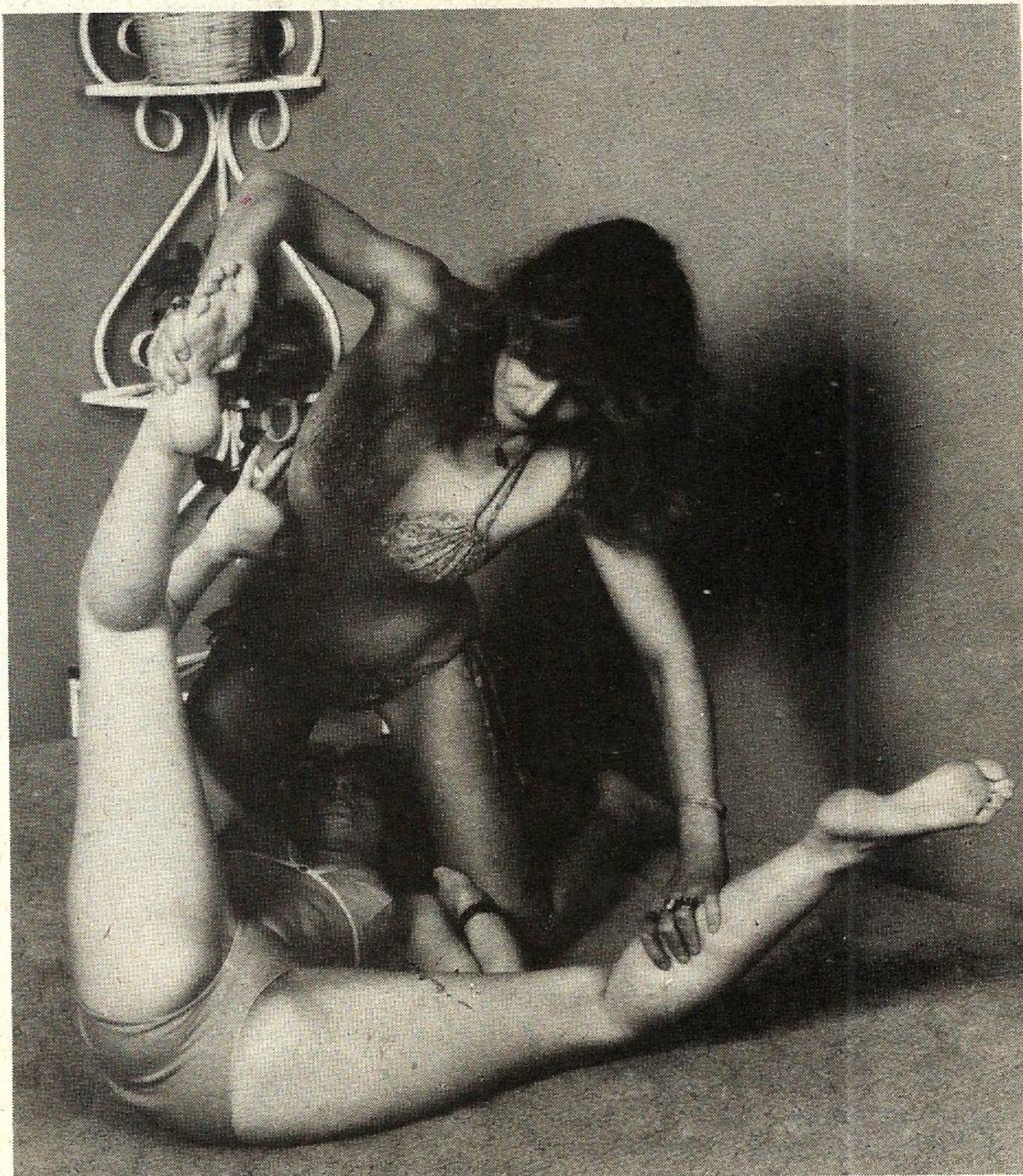
most vulnerable places. The
brunette moaned quietly, unable to
prevent the mauling. The moans
were soon joined by gasps and
piteous cries. The magnificent body,
once feared by all opponents,
writhed convulsively beneath the
assault.

When Jacqueline was beaten so
badly she could barely move,
Magdalena leaped high in the air
and smashed her foot into the
brunette's lush breast. A howl of
agony rent the quiet as Jacqueline's
body again spasmodically jerked.
Her beauty and power were of no
assistance to her any longer. The
splendid form was made grotesque

by the torment.

Someone tried to stop the battle,
but he was stopped by a vocal crowd.
It comes as no surprise that these
were the ones betting on
Jacqueline. With a cruelty not
reserved the wealthy, the losers
were determined to make her pay in
agony for betraying their faith.
Richard didn't say a word. He just
sat there, content with the
inevitable.

Magdalena couldn't be stopped.
She battered her opponent sense-
less, squeezing and punching and
kicking. Sweat poured down the
blonde's body as the attack
continued at breakneck pace. Every



For once it is Jacqueline who has the upper hand. This was action from early in the
match, moments after Jacqueline realized the pill she took was not a pep pill, but a
Mickey Finn. Immediately she tore into Magdalena, hoping to rip her leg muscles,
quickly ending the match, but the drug proved too much.

so often, Jacqueline managed to raise a hand or foot. These futile attempts at defense were swatted away with cruel disdain.

Finally, with Jacqueline lying still, Magdalena fell upon her foe. With some vestige of pride, the brunette writhed a bit beneath her conqueror's weight. Her body grinded pathetically for a few moments and then lay still. The match was over.

Magdalena leaped up, ecstatic in victory. Her sweating body seemed splendid as it relaxed in victory. Jacqueline had to be helped to the bedroom.

Richard went around and collected his winnings. He went right from the penthouse to Los Angeles International Airport. His flight left two hours later.

The full story didn't come out for another week. Obviously, Jacqueline wasn't too keen to admit she'd taken a drug to make her win. Declaiming her betrayal would also admit her attempt to cheat. However, pride forced her to reveal the plot.

As expected her inglorious defeat by Magdalena had made the blonde renown. The praise heaped upon a young woman not even in Jacqueline's class infuriated the brunette. When she'd heard more compliments directed at Magdalena than could be tolerated, Jacqueline revealed everything.

Immediately, the bettors tried to find Richard. It didn't take long for them to discover Myles was a continent away. There was nothing they could do but instruct their accountants to find a way to write off their losses.

Whether or not Jacqueline will ever again be allowed to wrestle remains to be seen. One doesn't have to guess at the make-up of the group demanding she be banned. Others, believing her incredible talent cannot be ignored, insist she get another chance. The outcome is still in doubt, although chances are she will be reinstated on probation.

Of course, her first match will be against Magdalena. There is a score to settle and a reputation to win back. It promises to be one hell of a brawl!

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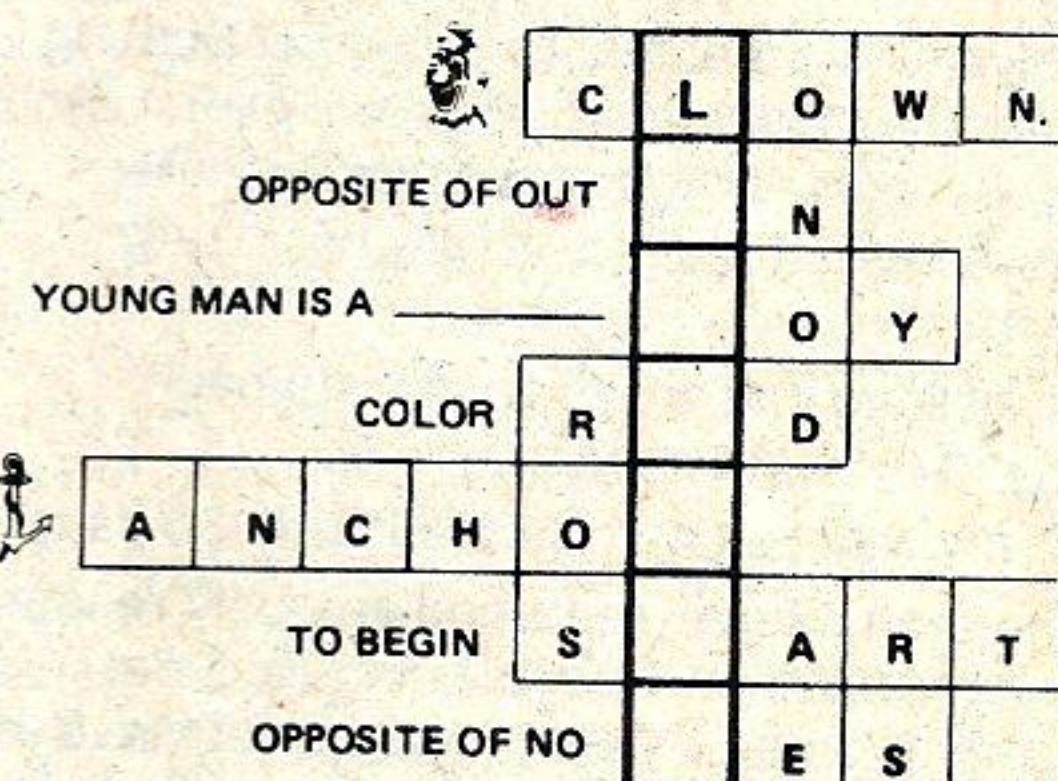
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